

# the Nuclear Resister

"A Chronicle of Hope"

No. 141

April 20, 2006

## Conscientious Tax Objectors Begin Long Sentences

Two New Jersey men are in prison, serving the longest sentences ever given in the United States for conscientious refusal to pay taxes that fund warmaking. Joseph Donato and Kevin McKee, members of the Restored Israel of YAHWEH, a small Christian sect fundamentally opposed to paying for war, surrendered at federal prisons in February. Donato, whose wife Inge just completed a six-month prison sentence in the same case, will serve 27 months in prison. McKee will serve 24 months.

A statement posted at the group's website, [www.rioy.org](http://www.rioy.org), explains:

"Our purpose as a religious society has always been to live and work for a kingdom on earth. We were blessed with the privilege of knowing Jeremiah. [the late sect's founder, Leo Volpe] He left us with a knowledge to carry on with the hope of seeing YAHWEH'S words fulfilled wherein a kingdom of peace, love and true justice will prevail throughout the entire earth. The tax issue we have been involved with has been a trial in more than one way, yet we are reminded of the scripture in Matthew 10:28: 'And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.'

"All of us would like to thank all those who expressed loving support, whether through prayers, kind words, or letters. Thank you for being there..."

"As for the courts, they are working for the government, following the laws of the land, and, as we have heard in the past, 'they are just doing their jobs.'

"Now we go on, working out our own salvation in continued obedience to the Almighty GOD YAHWEH, loving our neighbors and being grateful for having the hope of the future."



Letters of support should be sent to Kevin McKee, 40886-050, FCI Schuylkill Satellite Camp, POB 670, Minersville, PA 17954; and Joseph Donato, 40884-050, FCI-Fairton, POB 420, Fairton, NJ 08320.

## Six Months, Again

Des Moines Catholic Worker Frank Cordaro was sentenced February 24 to six months in prison for walking onto Offutt Air Force Base with three others last December 28. It is the eighth time the former priest has drawn such a sentence for peaceful protest. Cordaro pled guilty to trespassing at the home of the U.S. nuclear and space warfare command center, STRATCOM.

In the same court four days later, fellow line-crossers Fr. Jack McCaslin and Paul Gallagher entered pleas. McCaslin pled guilty and was sentenced to three years probation. Gallagher pled not guilty, but when he returned to court April 20, he changed his plea to guilty and received two years unsupervised probation and a \$100 fine. Renee Espland was in court and pled guilty on April 11. She was sentenced to one year probation.

For more information, contact Fran Fuller at the Phil Berrigan Catholic Worker House, 713 Indiana Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50314, 515-282-4781, [frank.cordaro@gmail.com](mailto:frank.cordaro@gmail.com)



Letters of support should be sent to Frank Cordaro, Jackson County Jail, 210 US Hwy 75, Holton, KS 66436. It's likely Cordaro will be moved to a federal facility. Letters returned to sender can be sent to the address above and they will be forwarded to him.

## Resistance on the Third Anniversary of Invasion

As the United States' occupation of Iraq entered its fourth year, hundreds of demonstrations across the U.S. demanded that it end. Arrests were reported at many military recruiting stations and congressional offices, the Pentagon and the plants of a couple of war profiteers. Many of these civil resistance actions were associated with the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance ([www.iraqpledge.org](http://www.iraqpledge.org)), presently the foremost nationwide advocate of such tactics. Some were also in concert with the Global Call For Nonviolent Civil Resistance to End the U.S.-Led Military Occupation of Iraq ([www.globalcalliraq.org](http://www.globalcalliraq.org))

### Pentagon and Washington, D.C.

The cornerstone direct action of the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance to the occupation of Iraq was at the Pentagon on March 20. About 200 people from more than 25 states came to Washington, D.C. to participate.

The event began Monday morning, near the Lincoln Memorial. Joe Mulligan, a Jesuit priest who has spent six months in jail protesting the School of the Americas and who came from Nicaragua to join the action, discussed the new Global Call for Nonviolent Resistance against the war. Bruce Gagnon, a Vietnam veteran and member of Vets for Peace, described nonviolent actions in his state of Maine challenging members of Congress there who continue to vote to fund the war in Iraq.

Following a litany of mourning and resistance, the group of nonviolent resisters processed across the Memorial Bridge to the LBJ Grove, near the Pentagon, carrying a ceremonial coffin covered with pictures of those who have lost their lives in the Iraq war. Before the action, four more speakers addressed the group, including "Peace Mom" Cindy Sheehan; Veteran for Peace Mike Ferner, who had been fasting since February 15; Michael Berg, whose son Nick, a civilian contractor, was killed in Iraq in 2004; and Laura Costas, a member of Military Families Speak Out whose brother has been suffering from the effects of exposure to depleted uranium since his return from service in Iraq.

The group then continued on to the Pentagon in an attempt to meet with Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld (following on previous requests for a meeting). There they confronted approximately 100 Pentagon police and extensive steel fences which had been erected that morning to prevent access to the Pentagon. After requests to be allowed to pass were rebuffed, 51 of the activists climbed over the fence to continue the procession to the Pentagon, and were promptly arrested.

With at least two of the arrestees being released without charges, amid descriptions of friendly treatment and whispers of support from some of the police, the other 49 are scheduled for arraignment in dates ranging from June through August.

An affinity group including members of DAWN, the D.C. Anti-War Network, engaged in three other non-violent direct actions that day in Washington, D.C., but were not arrested. The group protested in the lobby of three buildings housing offices of war profiteers Haliburton, Bechtel, and the Carlisle Group. At the latter office, a corporate hack came out to assure the group that he would send their list of Iraqi war casualties up the chain to his bosses.

### Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

In Pittsburgh, a March 18 anti-war march stretched for three miles. An estimated two thousand people turned out, defiant in the face of recent news that the members of the Thomas Merton Center, organizer of the march, have been the targets of FBI surveillance.



photo by Adam Woznicki

A Cleveland Catholic Worker is escorted from a military recruiting center on March 20.

One arrest was reported at the Oakland military recruiting station, the scene of regular protests and end point for the anniversary march. The person was released on their own recognizance later that day.

### Cleveland, Ohio

Two members of the Cleveland Catholic Worker community entered the Lakewood military recruiting center on Sunday, March 19. While Joe Mueller and Chris Knestrick knelt in prayer, a couple of dozen supporters outside read a litany of Iraqi and U.S. war casualties, in the presence of a flag-draped coffin and someone playing the role of an Abu Ghraib prisoner. Others gathered signatures for Ohio's U.S. Senators in support of U.S. withdrawal from Iraq and U.S. payment of unconditional war reparations through a neutral party.

Police arrested both men for trespass when they refused to leave. Both were released, pending a pretrial hearing April 27.

"Lent is a time of communal and personal repentance of war," said Mueller, who recently returned from a Christian Peacemaker Team delegation to Iraq.

"I am grieving the death of my friend, Tom Fox, and the lives of thousands of Iraqis." Knestrick explained, "Helping convince young people from joining the military is one of many concrete ways we can resist."

### San Francisco, California

More than 100 people rallied in the rain in downtown San Francisco on the morning of March 20, for a demonstration called by Act Against Torture. The high point of the protest came when a mock prison cell was rapidly assembled in the middle of the intersection at Montgomery and Market Streets. Seven people, hooded and in orange jumpsuits, were caged inside, watched over by a cardboard-rifle toting guard. Other people surrounded the cell, holding up photos of torture victims at Abu Ghraib and stop signs reading Stop the War and Stop Torture. Police moved quickly to clear the scene for rush-hour traffic, arresting 17 people. They were cited and released.

### Syracuse, New York

On Monday, March 20, a group of over 90 central New Yorkers left the Syracuse Federal Building for a spirited anti-war march marking the third anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. Chanting "Year Four, No More War," the group wound through Armory Square, ending at the military recruiting office on S. Salina Street.

Nine activists entered in the building to talk with the recruiters and provide information that they believe is missing from the picture presented to potential recruits. The recruiters declined to have such a discussion, and immediately called the police.

After over an hour of discussion and negotiation

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# Resistance Reflections

*Editors' note: This issue reports on several direct actions taken to oppose a most odious companion to war: torture. Writing in the Nukewatch Pathfinder, Spring 2006 edition, long-time nuclear resister and current SOA Watch prisoner of conscience, John LaForge explains the connections to his own anti-nuclear activism.*

## Acting Against Torture

By John LaForge

Nukewatchers have practiced nonviolent civil resistance against nuclear weapons and war for 26 years. Hundreds of us have gone to jail and prison to raise awareness of the war system or official wrongdoing, and to withdraw our cooperation with crimes of state.

Nonviolent actions at missile silos saw dozens of resisters go to jail in the '80s and '90s; hundreds of peaceful direct actions at the Navy's first-strike ELF transmitter resulted in more than nine collective years of jail and prison.

Today, photographic proof of the outrages committed by U.S. troops against prisoners make anyone who's known a jail cell shudder. Evidence of the humiliation, abuse, torture and even murder of hooded, shackled, helpless captives has staggered us all - not just "the Arab world."

As many as 108 detainees have died in U.S. custody and half of these suspected killings have never been investigated. Over 300 incidents of abuse were documented by just one of 12, in-house, military investigations into Abu Ghraib. Some 100 detainees have been hidden from the Red Cross. Still, no high-level appointee has been indicted or tried, much less punished for creating the policies that led to these crimes of state.

Amnesty International USA, Human Rights Watch, the Center for Constitutional Rights, the ACLU, the American Bar Association and Human Rights First have joined in calling for a special prosecutor. But that decision would be made by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, a man so tarnished by his advocacy of vicious

interrogation that Molly Ivins calls him "torture boy." Demands that the Guantanamo prison be closed have come from the UN Human Rights Commission, Jimmy Carter and even the New York Times.

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Only an intolerable injustice can justify civil disobedience." Torture is nothing if not an intolerable injustice. It's a medieval atrocity.

Legal prohibitions against it are unequivocal and absolute. Torture's condemnation is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva Conventions, the UN Convention Against Torture, the U.S. War Crimes Act of 1996, the Anti-Torture Act of 1996, the U.S. Army Field Manual and the recently-adopted McCain anti-torture amendment.

Since news of Abu Ghraib broke in April 2004, I've collected a box full of articles, five dozen news accounts, six official-reports, and I've written wordy, indignant commentaries on the subject. All the while I knew none of the research amounted to a hill of beans if I didn't act.

I went into the SOA line-crossing Nov. 20 knowing the likely consequences. At arraignment the prosecutor read a list of prior convictions hoping to impress the U.S. Magistrate: Hearing my record, my comical stand-by attorney, Dan Gregor of Salt Lake City, leaned over and whispered, "But you look so innocent."

When considered in the context of the U.S. prison population of 2.2 million, with over 60 percent incarcerated for nonviolent offenses, our SOA sentences appear sadly unremarkable. Prison terms for peaceful protest at SOA are only outrageous in the context of the paltry punishments given to a few convicted torturers and the fact that no one of "command responsibility" has been held to account.

Yes, we must stand against the storm of lies that would justify torture. Still, as Dan Berrigan reminds us, our jail-going is not a search for justice, but a mitigating of the harm being done to people there.



## Where We're At

It became evident as we worked on this issue that not everything would fit in the usual eight pages. Not with so many anti-war actions to report, including those marking the third anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. Not with such a long list of prison addresses to publish for all the School of the Americas Watch and other prisoners. We also thought it was important to bring you timely information about a new nonviolent resistance campaign getting underway, the Declaration of Peace (see page 11). This is the latest manifestation of evolving efforts to involve more people in nonviolent civil resistance at a greater depth of commitment, and it reflects contributions from many facets of the anti-war movement today. And in this issue you will find writings by John LaForge, Frank Cordaro and Leonard Peltier, who have been in and out of prison - and in Peltier's case, always in prison - since we began publishing *the Nuclear Resister* more than 25 years ago.

So here are an extra 4 pages. Doing this adds significantly to printing and postage costs, but we think it's worth it. Donations are always appreciated.

## Thanks

Thanks to Jeri, Charlotte, Paige, Steve, David and Cindy for helping to mail the last issue!

## Resistance on the Third Anniversary, cont.

*continued from page 1*

with the recruiters and police, the nine were arrested and charged with trespassing. The 'Syracuse Nine' go on trial May 3.

### Lansing, Michigan

The South Lansing Marine recruiting center was shut down for a few hours on Monday afternoon, March 20. Kathie Kuhn and John Masterson, an emeritus of mathematics at Michigan State, brought their own ladder to scale the roof of the center and unfurl their banner, "Recruiting for Lies, Based on Lies." Meanwhile, Mike McCurdy, Sayrah Namaste, and Charlie Nash posted 21 signs on the office windows, each with a true statement, such as "87% of Iraqis want U.S. out of Iraq" and "33% of veterans are homeless." The three then locked arms and blocked the doors. Recruiters were angered and tried to force open the door. When one young marine broke off a door handle, he told police the protesters had done the damage. Police arrested the five for trespassing when they could not be persuaded to leave. In court April 18, Kuhn and Masterson pleaded guilty to trespass and were fined. The attorney for the other three defendants is seeking the same option for his clients, who have court dates later in April.

### Times Square, New York City

In New York City, the War Resisters League and friends used the March 19th anniversary to publicly mourn and focus attention on the deaths of Iraqi men, women, and children due to the ongoing U.S. occupation. More than 250 processed in silence from the corner of Central Park, at 59th Street and Fifth Avenue, threading their way among mid-town Sunday shoppers, past Rockefeller Center and through the theater district to that traditional focus of anti-war protest, the Armed Forces recruiting station in Times Square. But on this day, police had barricaded the traffic island home of the station. When a delegation was blocked from delivering effigies of dead Iraqis to the door of the station, they in turn locked arms across Broadway, halting traffic for a short time. Police quickly made arrests as supporters chanted and cheered from behind sidewalk barricades. Seventeen people were arrested, cited and released that day.

Following up, 18 Raging Grannies arrested at the Times Square station last October go on trial April 20.

### Boston, Massachusetts

In Boston, a dozen or so activists set out Monday morning, March 20, to "make sure nobody forgets that both Iraqi civilians and American soldiers are dying

every day." They began at Northeastern University's ROTC office, where a collage of anti-war messages were chalked on the sidewalk out front, along with body outlines. Yellow caution tape was woven across the entryway, and then the "Operation Over" action group was off to the Boston University ROTC office, where the same tactics were employed. They biked on to the MIT ROTC office, but en route the group was accosted by police and detained for 20 minutes while police demanded ID and asked questions about spraypainting inside a college building. No arrests were made and the group rode on to MIT ROTC and the Tremont Street recruiting center, where they continued the demonstrations.

### Portland, Oregon

The Portland federal building office of Oregon Senator Ron Wyden was occupied March 20 by nineteen people, including students, retirees, an office manager, professors, a priest, nurses and a retired social worker, all "heartsick, appalled, dismayed and disgusted by the actions of our government in its preemptive attack on, and occupation of, Iraq," wrote Peter Bergel, an Oregon Peaceworks organizer among the group.

Although Wyden initially opposed the invasion of Iraq, he has been pushed by constituents to be a better leader, and sponsor a Senate resolution to end the war. Eighteen hundred signed petitions for such action were brought into to the office of the self-described "most accessible politician in Oregon." While the office sit-in, with its attendant police and Homeland Security monitors and media, disrupted most business, one hundred supporters rallied outside for a morning press conference and most stayed to vigil all day. Wyden wouldn't budge on his previous refusal to meet with the anti-war group. At the end of the day, 19 people were arrested and ejected from the building with a citation for failure to obey. They are ordered to appear in federal court on June 2.

The occupation came the day after more than 10,000 people marched through downtown Portland. One arrest was reported, on a minor charge.

### Eugene, Oregon

Eugene Civil Resisters pressed their case for congressional spine to the point of arrest at three lawmakers' local offices. First stop was the federal building and the office of Sen. Gordon Smith. Denied access to the third floor destination, several people held a spirited sit-in in the lobby. Ten were arrested, including six minors. (All of these charges will reportedly be dismissed.) Next stop was the office building used by Sen. Wyden and Rep.

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### 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 and clippings about local actions. Thanks!

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS and BULK ORDERS

One-year subscriptions are US\$15 in the United States, US\$20 to Canada, and US\$25 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 Research Collection (1986 - present) and the Alternative Press Center Supplement of the Underground Press Collection (1980 - 1985) offered by the UMI Division of ProQuest Company, 300 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

#### 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 two 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*

# SOA Convicts Report to Prison

Twenty-nine human rights advocates associated with SOA Watch turned themselves in at federal prisons April 11 to begin serving sentences of one to six months for their acts of nonviolent civil disobedience opposing the controversial U.S. Army's School of the Americas (SOA/WHINSEC). The 29 - from all across the U.S. and ranging in age from 19 to 81 - are among 37 people arrested at Fort Benning, Georgia, last November and later sentenced in a federal court. They joined four other people already behind bars following the annual demonstration to close the school, where Latin American military have long been taught refined military methods of repression and punishment.

Of the four already in custody, Don Nelson completed his three month sentence on April 14. Jonathan Robert, in jail since November, will be sentenced April 27 for destruction of government property. He had cut a view hole in the canvas that covered the temporary fence on the day of the mass line-crossing. Additionally, Robert has a hearing May 8 in federal court in Macon, Georgia, to answer a charge that he made a threatening phone call to a hotel hosting the G8 economic summit at Sea Island in 2004. Fr. Louis Vitale will complete his 162 day sentence on April 30, and Christine Gaunt will conclude her six month term on May 19.

For more information about each of the imprisoned activists and the campaign to close the SOA, contact SOA Watch, POB 4566, Washington, D.C. 20017, (202)234-3440; or visit [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org)



Supporters of the prisoners are encouraged to join SOA Lobby Days in Washington, D.C., April 23-25, where there will be legislative action trainings, rallies, lobbying, networking and more. If you can't come to Washington, SOA Watch asks that you complement the D.C. effort to close the SOA by making a visit, a phone call, or writing a letter to your local Representative in support of passage of HR1217, The Latin American Training Review Act of 2005. HR1217 was introduced in March 2005 and has at least 123 co-sponsors. SOA Watch believes this defunding legislation has a better chance at passage than any such bill since 1999. More information about the lobbying campaign can be found at [soaw.org](http://soaw.org)

The complete list of SOA prisoners of conscience, their sentence and prison address can be found on page 3, Inside & Out. Letters to prisoners at the same institution must be individually addressed.

# DAVID SEGAL

## BEGINS SIX MONTHS

Would-be military recruiting station arsonist David Segal surrendered to federal custody in Ft. Dix, New Jersey on March 17. He is serving a six month sentence for felony malicious mischief, after being caught in the act of breaking a window and a futile attempt to ignite the carpet inside a Bronx, NY, Army recruiting station in the wee hours of January 31, 2005. For more information, visit [supportdavidsegal.com](http://supportdavidsegal.com).



Letters of support should be sent to David Segal, 57368-054, FCI Fort Dix, POB 7000, Fort Dix, NJ 08640.

## Inside & Out

**THE WOMEN AND MEN LISTED HERE ARE IN PRISON FOR ACTIONS TAKEN IN OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND WAR.**

**THERE MAY BE OTHERS! PLEASE HELP US BY SENDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO THE NUCLEAR RESISTER, P.O. BOX 43383, TUCSON, AZ 85733 · [nukeresister@igc.org](mailto:nukeresister@igc.org)**

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

### NUCLEAR RESISTERS, USA:

**Frank Cordaro** (six months - out 8/06)  
Jackson County Jail, 210 US Hwy 75, Holton, KS 66436.  
(Repeat trespass at Offutt Air Force Base, 12/28/05)

**Helen Woodson** 03231-045 (106 months - in 3/11/04)  
FMC Carswell, Max Unit, POB 27137, Ft. Worth, TX 76127.

(Parole violation with anti-war protest at the federal courthouse, Kansas City, Missouri, 3/11/04)

**Leonard Peltier** 89637-132 (life)  
USP Lewisburg, POB 1000, Lewisburg, PA 17837.  
(Native American political prisoner)

### NUCLEAR RESISTERS OVERSEAS:

**Igor V. Sutyagin** (15 years)  
163050, Arkhangelsk; Ul. Pirsovaya, d. 27; FGU IK-1, 5 otryad; Russia. (letters only, no parcels)  
(Imprisoned since 10/27/1999, now convicted of espionage for researching public nuclear weapons information - sentenced 4/07/04)

### THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE ARE NOW IN PRISON FOR ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIVITIES

**Clare Grady** 01264-052 (six months - out 7/17/06)  
FDC Philadelphia, P.O.B. 562, Philadelphia, PA 19106.  
**Teresa Grady** 13183-052 (four months - out 5/21/06)  
FCI Danbury, Route 37, Danbury, CT 06811.

**Daniel Burns** 13182-052 (six months - out 7/17/06)  
MDC Brooklyn, POB 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232.

**Peter DeMott** 10891-083 (eight months; four in jail, four in half-way house - out of prison 5/18/06)  
MDC Brooklyn, POB 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232.  
(St. Patrick's Four blood-pouring action at military recruiting center, 3/17/03)

**Ayman Jarwan** 11920-052 (18 months - out 12/25/06)  
FCI Allenwood (Low), POB 1500, White Deer, PA 17887.

**Rafil Dhafir** 11921-052 (22 years - out 4/26/22)  
FCI-Fairton, POB 420, Fairton, NJ 08320.  
(Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05)

**Laro Nicol** (2 years - out 6/15/06)  
c/o the Nuclear Resister, POB 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733.  
(Human rights and anti-war activist framed on firearms and explosives charges, pleaded no contest to avoid longer term, 9/04 - entered Phoenix half-way house, 4/16/06)

**David Segal** 57368-054 (six months - in 3/13/06)  
FCI Fort Dix, POB 7000, Fort Dix, NJ 08640.  
(Attempted arson of military recruiting station, 1/31/05)

**Brendan Walsh** 12473-052 (five years - out 7/15/08)  
FCI Elkton, POB 10, Lisbon, OH 44432.  
(Arson at military recruiting station, 4/02)

**Kevin McKee** 40886-050 (24 months - out 11/5/07)  
FCI Schuylkill Satellite Camp, POB 670, Minersville, PA 17954.



**Joseph Donato** 40884-050 (27 months - in 2/21/06)  
FCI-Fairton, POB 420, Fairton, NJ 08320.  
(Convicted 12/04 of felonies related to religious refusal to pay war taxes)

### SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS WATCH

**Anika D. Cunningham** 92567-020 (30 days - in 4/11/06)

**Elizabeth Ann Lentsch** 30147-074 (six months - in 4/11/06)  
FMC Lexington, Satellite Camp, POB 14525, Lexington, KY 40512.

**Joanne Cowan** 92566-020 (60 days - in 4/11/06)  
FCI Phoenix, Satellite Camp, 37930 N. 45th Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85086.

**Samuel Foster** 91439-020 (60 days - in 4/11/06)  
FCI Beckley, Satellite Camp, POB 350, Beaver, WV 25813.

**Christine Gaunt**, #91356-020 (six months - out 5/19/06)

**Rita Hohenshell** 90280-020 (60 days - in 4/11/06)

**Jane Hosking** 05331-090 (six months - in 4/11/06)

FCI Pekin, Satellite Camp, POB 5000, Pekin, IL 61555.

**Dorothy Parker** 91432-020 (60 days - in 4/11/06)

**Sarah C. Harper** 92571-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

**Cheryl Sommers** 91437-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FCI Dublin, Satellite Camp, 5765 8th St., Camp Parks, Dublin, CA 94568.

**Judith Ruland** 91434-020 (60 days - in 4/11/06)

**Robin Lloyd** 92572-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FCI Danbury, Federal Prison Camp, Route 37, Danbury, CT 06811.

**Delmar Schwaller** 91435-020 (60 days - in 4/11/06)

**Buddy R. Bell** 92561-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

**Fredrick Brancel** 92562-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

(Fred has asked to receive any correspondence through an e-mail account, [fredinjail@gmail.com](mailto:fredinjail@gmail.com). Mail will be forwarded by his son.)

FCI Oxford, Satellite Camp, POB 1085, Oxford, WI 53952.

**Robert Call** 92563-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FCI Fort Dix, Satellite Camp, POB 1000, Fort Dix, NJ 08640.

**Stephen Douglas Clements** 92565-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

(BOP has misspelled Clements)

**John LaForge** 03213-090 (six months - in 4/11/06)

FPC Duluth, Federal Prison Camp, POB 1000, Duluth, MN 55814.

**Michael Lee Gayman** 92570-020 (60 days - in 4/11/06)

**Jerome A. Zawada** 04995-045 (six months - in 4/11/06)

**Scott Dempsey** 92568-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FCI Terre Haute, Satellite Camp, POB 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808.

**Joseph DeRaymond** 92569-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FCI Schuylkill, Satellite Camp, POB 670, Minersville, PA 17954.

**Linda Mashburn** 91430-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

**Gail S. Phares** 91433-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FPC Alderson, Federal Prison Camp, POB A, Alderson, WV 24910.

**Donte Smith** 91436-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FMC Fort Worth, Federal Medical Center, POB 15330, Fort Worth, TX 76119.

**David A. Sylvester** 91441-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

FCI Lompoc, Satellite Camp, 3705 West Farm Road, Lompoc, CA 93436.

**Francis Woolever** 91438-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

USP Canaan, Satellite Camp, POB 200, Waymart, PA 18472.

**Edward Smith** 46994-083 (six months - in 4/11/06)

FCI Schuylkill, Satellite Camp, POB 670, Minersville, PA 17954.

**Louis Vitale** (162 days - out 4/30/06)

Crisp County Detention Center, 197 Georgia Hwy. 300 South, Cordele, GA 31015.

(Trespass at the School of the Americas, Ft. Benning, Georgia, 11/05)

**Kenneth F. Crowley** 90963-020 (six months - in 4/11/06)

FCI Beaumont Low, POB 26020, Beaumont, TX 77720.

(Aiding and abetting trespass at the School of the Americas, Ft. Benning, Georgia, 11/05)

**Liam O'Reilly** 91431-020 (90 days - in 4/11/06)

USP Canaan, Satellite Camp, POB 200, Waymart, PA 18472.

(Destruction of government property at the School of the Americas, 11/05)

**Jonathan Robert** (to be sentenced 4/27)

Crisp County Detention Center, 197 Georgia Hwy. 300 South, Cordele, GA 31015.

(Destruction of government property at the School of the Americas, Ft. Benning, Georgia, 11/05; plus hearing 5/8 on prior pending federal charge of making a threatening communication)

### VIEQUES

**José Pérez González** 21519-069 (5 years - out 1/17/08)

FCI Yazoo City Medium, POB 5888, Yazoo City, MS 39194.

(Conspiracy, damage to federal property, &/or probation violation 5/1/03 - resisting U.S. military bombardment of Vieques, Puerto Rico)

### MILITARY REFUSERS

**Dr. Malcolm Kendall-Smith** (8 months - in 4/13)

HMP Chelmsford, 200 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex, United Kingdom CM2 6LQ.

(Refused orders to deploy to illegal war in Iraq)

**Pvt. Neil Quentin Lucas** (13 months - out 8/22/06)

Building 1490, Randolph Rd., Fort Sill, OK 73503.

(Refused to deploy after CO claim is ignored; court martialled 6/22/05)

**Sgt. Kevin Benderman** (15 months - in 7/29/05)

c/o Benderman Defense, POB 2322, Hinesville, GA 31310.

(Career Army NCO denied CO status, convicted of missing movement to Iraq, 7/29/05)

### PREVIOUSLY LISTED, RECENTLY RELEASED

Sylvia Diane Wilson, Turi Vaccaro, Donald W. Nelson

Letter writers are reminded to include their return address on the letter as well as the envelope, because some prisoners are not permitted to keep the envelope.

# ACTIONS AGAINST MILITARY RECRUITING ON THE RISE

Reflecting an overall escalation of opposition to military recruiting, more of these protests have also resulted in arrests. These actions are in addition to those reported in the invasion anniversary story beginning on page 1.

## SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

On Valentine's Day, February 14, a group of Raging Grannies were joined by Code Pink activists in a protest at the armed forces recruiting station in Silver Spring, Maryland. Four of the "grannies" (Pat Solomon, 65, Jean Athey, 60, Elayne McClanen, 76, and Ione Dusenberre, 75) were arrested for trespass after blocking the entrance. Also charged with trespass was pregnant 33-year-old Lorig Charkoudian, who was present "on behalf of American and Iraqi mothers who've lost too many babies." Down at their station, police released the women with only a citation that bars them from the area in front of the recruiting station for one year.

## COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

About 60 midwest Catholic Workers concluded a weekend gathering in Missouri with a mock funeral procession on Monday morning, April 3. They walked through downtown Columbia, behind coffins draped with an Iraqi and an American flag. The solemn procession ended at the military recruiting office.

Eddie Bloomer from the Des Moines Catholic Worker and Joseph Black from the St. Louis Catholic Worker entered the office along with Chrissy Kirchhoefer and Steve Jacobs from Columbia's Catholic Worker community. They brought roses for the recruiters, and engaged them in a conversation.

"We love you guys," Jacobs told the Navy recruiter. "We don't want you to go to Iraq and get killed or have to kill anyone else in our name."

The activists taped upon the recruiting office walls and doors several photos of torture victims from Abu Ghraib and bloodied Iraqi children whose parents were killed by U.S. troops at a checkpoint. New posters were added to the decor, one asking "Who Would Jesus Bomb?" and another declaring that "Christians cannot love their enemies and kill them, too."

Police were summoned, and arrived to arrest the four. They were cited for trespass and released without bond, pending a court date on May 4. For more information, contact Lana or Steve Jacobs at 573-875-7878.

## ULSTER, NEW YORK

At the Kings Mall in New York state's central Hudson River Valley, two World War II Veterans for Peace are leading a protracted campaign to hold ground for free speech in the private commercial centers that have replaced the public square. Jay Wenk, 79, and Joan Keefe, 84, believe that the First Amendment "should not be trumped by private property rights," particularly when a controversial government outpost - the only military recruiting station in the county - is inside the shopping mall.

Wenk was first arrested at the Kings Mall in Ulster in March, 2005, for leafletting with an anti-enlistment message outside the military storefront. But the mall management, recruiting officers and the prosecutor for the town of Ulster soon agreed that "justice would be better served if we dismiss this case," in the words of the judge.

Wenk and Keefe were again told to leave the mall while they leafleted last August, and were cited for trespass on two occasions when they refused. Those charges were dismissed last December when even the

prosecutor wrote that "this case presents compelling constitutional issues which may transcend the criminal trespass charge."

This past February, the two took up reading the names of those killed in Iraq while they vigiled near the recruiting center. After each name was read, a metal gong was struck. Police were called on February 4 when they refused to leave, and arrested the pair on charges of disorderly conduct and trespass. Police were called again February 11, and issued another pair of trespass charges, plus a count of harassment against Wenk. Wenk told a local newspaper that one shopper had complained to mall management. She'd taken his leaflet, then crumpled it up and thrown it on the ground as she passed. He'd briefly followed her, to ask why she was littering.

The defendants cite laws in New Jersey and California that recognize the essential public nature of shopping mall common areas as venues for political expression, and seek such recognition in New York as well. Concerning the risk involved, Keefe told the *Woodstock Times*, "We're going to keep doing this until it's over, until we get Bush and his cronies out of office. Jay and I have advantages other people don't have. Young people have families - they can't take the chance of getting arrested. If we have to go to jail, it's not a problem. I wish it would come to that - it makes more people concerned."

At their arraignment March 1, both pleaded not guilty, and are set for trial April 25. Meanwhile, they continue to vigil regularly inside the mall.

## DULUTH, MINNESOTA

In Duluth, Minnesota, International Women's Day (March 8) was celebrated by 100 people who rallied at the federal building and then marched to a nearby U.S. Army recruiting station to protest the effects of war and militarism on women.

At the station, the group listened to the testimony of a veteran who was injured in the Army while attempting to stop a male soldier from raping her roommate. A college student spoke about her experience meeting with Army recruiters in Duluth to ask about enlistment. "The recruiter told me that rape and domestic violence 'aren't a problem' in the Army," she said, pointing out that the Department of Defense itself says otherwise. A high school student spoke about propaganda and "war's assault on language."

As people rallied and banged pots and pans (in a tradition used by women throughout the developing world to draw attention to violence in their communities), four women - Heidi Bakk-Hansen, Donna Howard, Celia Kutz and Kris Simonson, all of Duluth - surprised recruiters by entering the station and asking to talk about recruiting practices. The four said that they were concerned that women recruits were not being provided with accurate information about military life, and asked recruiters to distribute a brochure created by the group that cited U.S. government and NGO statistics on sexual assault and domestic violence in the military, unemployment among veterans, the effects of war on civilian women, and other relevant topics. The recruiters called the statistics "lies," refused to distribute the pamphlet and alerted the police. After an hour and a half of negotiations, Duluth police cited the women for trespass and released them just outside the office.

At their arraignment April 5, the trespass charge was reduced to a city ordinance violation, and a trial was set for June 5.

(Thanks to Joel Kilgour for the Duluth report.)

## WRITINGS FROM JAIL

# THE INSIDE LINE



~from Lewisburg

Greetings My Relatives:

I say relatives for we are all related in some way....

I want to say a few things from my heart to your heart.

Seek the creator in all the things you do. Cherish your time with one another. Develop your personal self discipline, which is the key to all success. Develop a sense of happiness within you that none can take away. Develop who you are and remain true to your higher self and your integrity will be an inspiration to others. Show your strengths when necessary, even if it is in being gentle or humble. Speak of others in private the same way you would in their presence. Do your best to find the good in all people and stand and speak up against wrong doing. Respect the earth where you stand. Many parts of Mother Earth are also held captive behind concrete and steel. Do your best to recognize inspiration from the Creator and avoid listening to your own, especially when you are tempted in contradiction of your higher values. Never be too proud to say you were wrong or too fearful to stand up for what you know is right. Don't expect to not get hurt by life, just because you've done your best to do what's right. Especially - don't lose your sense of humor, even when the laughter is at your own expense.

Life is a learning place. Existence is forever. Challenges are only challenges because life has given you an opportunity to grow in an area of your fear or weakness. Perhaps I've talked too much, eh? I want to thank all of you for remembering me. Most of all I want to thank all of you who have chosen to make a difference for the betterment of this world...

(...my greatest joy comes from someone saying that something I said or was involved with inspired them to be better than they were or seek for themselves to make the world a better place. ...)

I know we don't all have the same capabilities or resources and I know from experience and history that there will always be those who would commit injustice against others. I know this is the way of things in the past and it will continue in the future. But I also know that if it has touched our hearts to do so, we must each, in our own way, in our own time, be part of the cure against the sicknesses of greed, wealth mongering and nature destruction that faces all mankind. We can't individually stop it or even collectively, however, we can sure slow it up and, pray to the Creator that his intervention will prevail...

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,  
Mitakuye oyasin!  
Leonard Peltier

[Leonard Peltier is serving two life sentences for a crime he did not commit. See update, page 5.]

## Resistance on the Third Anniversary, cont.

continued from page 2

DeFazio. Both offices were posted with a sign explaining they were "locked today at the request of the federal protective service." Another sit-in ensued after phone calls to the staff visible inside the locked offices confirmed they had no intention of meeting face-to-face with war opponents. Eight people were arrested soon thereafter, including one minor, and cited for trespass. The minor was released to his parents with a warning. The charge has since been reduced to a violation. One person who pled guilty was fined, and the others face separate trial dates from April 17 into May.

Eugene resisters had also turned out on February 21, when Sen. Smith came to town and spoke at a Rotary Club meeting. Images of war horrors were on prominent display outside the Hilton Hotel venue, with the message that "Senator Smith Voted for This" and "Senator Smith's Funding = 100,000 Iraqis Dead." Smartly dressed organizer Peter Chabarek passed anti-war leaflets at the ball-

room door until asked to leave. He pondered the question of a policeman he was well acquainted with, whether he was going to cooperate? Chabarek walked over to a TV camera crew and asked if they were ready to shoot. Shoot what? An arrest for passing out fliers, Chabarek replied. When they had the camera ready, Chabarek returned to the doorway and resumed leafletting. He was promptly arrested, and it was well reported in the local media. The charge was later reduced and Chabarek pled not guilty. Trial is pending.

## Los Angeles, California

Fifty people processed with flag-draped coffins to the Westwood, Los Angeles office of Senator Diane Feinstein on March 20. The coffins were placed against the doors, and a die-in was staged. Eight people were arrested, including the Peace and Freedom Party candidate for California's 29th Congressional district. Most

were released later that day, but Catholic Worker Jeff Dietrich was held overnight. When they arrived in court for arraignment, they learned that the city attorney had not decided how to charge them.

## Tucson, Arizona

In Tucson, there is a growing awareness that as the occupation of Iraq grinds on, the bombardment of that nation with products from the local Raytheon Missile Systems plant is on the rise. According to the Air Force, the specific missiles and bombs fired on Iraq are not identified because of "internal angst about whether or not it is appropriate..." But the preferred generic reference to "precision guided munitions" is synonymous with Raytheon's biggest boast about its Tucson products. In the last seven months, the local plant, which employs nearly 11,000 people, has received nearly \$1 billion in

continued on page 6

# PELTIER IN PRISON FOR 30 YEARS

On February 6, 2006, Leonard Peltier marked 30 years in U.S. custody for the murder of two FBI agents during the 1975 FBI-military siege of traditional leaders on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. On the day of the crime, which the government now admits did not involve Peltier as the gunman, the corrupt tribal administration of Chairman Richard 'Dickie' Wilson was in Washington, D.C., secretly signing away tribal mineral rights, including uranium.

On February 6, 1976, Peltier was delivered by Canadian authorities to U.S. custody, on the basis of false testimony.

On February 24, 2006, U.S. District Judge William Skretny rejected Peltier's attempt to have the FBI hand over still-withheld documents about his case. "Plaintiff has not established the existence of bad faith or provided any evidence contradicting (the FBI's) claim that the release of these documents would endanger national security or would impair this country's relationship with a foreign government," the judge wrote.

For more information, contact the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, 915-533-6655, or visit [leonardpeltier.org](http://leonardpeltier.org).



Letters of support should be sent to Leonard Peltier 89637-132, USP Lewisburg, POB 1000, Lewisburg, PA 17837.

## Protest Follows Bush

President Bush continues to leave a wake of criminal prosecutions as he travels the land. But not for the criminal conduct continuing among his cronies in the Cabinet, in Congress and among K Street lobbyists. The alleged lawbreakers left littering the local legal establishments are those caught in the course of the anti-war protest that sprouts up at nearly every stop.

### Canandaigua, New York

When President Bush visited Canandaigua, New York on March 14, one woman was arrested for disorderly conduct after reportedly using vulgar language as she voiced her opinion about the man. Two people arrested last year when the President visited the area also joined the protest but purposefully avoided arrest. Harry Murray and Sr. Mary Grace had knelt in prayer in the street outside the school where he spoke in May, 2005, and were arrested for disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and obstructing government administration. Their trial was adjourned in February after the arresting officer suffered a heart attack. The court then told both Catholic activists they'd be off the hook if they avoided trouble for six months.

### Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The reputation of police in the City of Brotherly Love for racial profiling and brutality was sustained last December 12. Over a thousand people protested in freezing temperatures outside the Center City Hotel where Bush spoke to promote his war. When a plainclothes policeman saw teenager Ali El-Mekki's glass of hot lemonade, he assumed the yellow liquid to be a corrosive or poisonous threat, and physically accosted the African-American child. A melee erupted as Ali's father, middle-school principal Sharif El-Mekki, moved to protect his son from an assailant who had not yet identified himself as a cop. Uniformed police rushed in to support their undercover ilk. Ali was knocked to the ground, Sharif was arrested on aggravated assault and related charges, and Sharif's brother Mikyeil El-Mekki, who was also caught up in the fracas, was sent to the hospital over concern his recent hernia repair had been compromised. A few days later, a municipal court judge dismissed the charges against El-Mekki for lack of evidence. Video from the scene clearly shows Sharif El-Mekki taking a solid right punch to the head from the plainclothes cop.

### Greensboro, North Carolina

Even when he wasn't traveling, Bush's media überpresence to report on the State of the Union January 31 was enough to spark nationwide protest.

In Greensboro, North Carolina, 200 people noisily

# ST. PATRICK'S FOUR UPDATE

The St. Patrick's Four - New York State war resisters serving four to eight months behind bars for pouring blood during a prayerful nonviolent direct action at an Ithaca recruiting station on March 17, 2003 - have now all been moved to federal prisons. Peter DeMott, whose eight month sentence was modified so he could serve the last four months in a half-way house close to home and resume hospice care for his terminally-ill brother Fr. Steve DeMott, was denied furlough to attend services following Steve's death on March 30.

Supporters in Ithaca are raising money to help sustain the families of the four imprisoned parents throughout their incarceration and a couple months more, while they reestablish themselves outside. Pledges and one-time contributions in any amount are very much appreciated, and should be sent to the St. Patrick's Four, POB

293, Ithaca, NY 14851. More information is available at [st.patricksfour.org](http://st.patricksfour.org) or by contacting Mary Anne Grady Flores, [mgrady@lightlink.com](mailto:mgrady@lightlink.com), (607)273-6437.



Individually addressed letters of support should be sent to Clare Grady 01264-052, FDC Philadelphia, POB 562, Philadelphia, PA 19106; Teresa Grady 13183-052, FCI Danbury, Route 37, Danbury, CT 06811; Daniel Burns 13182-052, MDC Brooklyn, POB 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232; and Peter DeMott 10891-083, (MDC Brooklyn, as above).

## WINTER OF DISCONTENT

The "Winter of Our Discontent" anti-war campaign of Voices for Creative Nonviolence (VCNV) was grounded in Washington, D.C., where members of the group sustained a liquids-only fast and vigil on the steps of the U.S. Capitol from February 15 to March 19. At least four members abstained from food for the entire period as an act of solidarity with Iraqi citizens and as a call to the U.S. government and citizens to end the war against Iraq.

Supporters came from across the country, including a 15-member group organized by the Des Moines Catholic Worker and including a family from Missouri and five Iowa college students. Some lobbied Congress and others carried the vigil to the Pentagon and the White House.

At the White House on February 27, the Des Moines group walked slowly along the Pennsylvania Avenue fence with anti-war placards and banners for about 30 minutes. Seven people then stopped directly in front, where protest is forbidden, to display a large banner asking "God Forgive America."

They were arrested in an elaborate display of police force that drew added attention to their message for some 90 minutes. All were fined \$75 each for demonstrating without a permit and released later that day.

On March 8, the House Appropriations Committee was taking up another \$67 billion bill to fund on-going war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Outside the hearing room, VCNV activists lined up to attend, along with activists from DAWN (D.C. Anti-War Network), Code Pink and Dorothy Day Catholic Worker. The press were abundant, covering the Committee's action on the Dubai port deal. The public was directed to an overflow room to watch the hearing on TV. DAWN activists lingering behind heard the gavel open the hearing, and one slipped into the room when a staffer left.

"Stop funding war and torture! Stop the killing, stop the extraordinary rendition!" he shouted. As police muscled him out the door, two more people slipped in, walked up towards the front of the room and told the panel of lawmakers, "You are funding death! The blood is on your hands!" As they were also ejected from the room, one asked loudly, "How many more Iraqis and Americans must die?" The activists were all allowed to

marched without a permit through downtown, occupying one intersection for over an hour. Police blocked the roads and redirected traffic. When a man was observed videotaping the license plates of demonstrators' cars parked in the area, several young men stepped up to block his view of the plates and ask his identity. The plainclothes police officer, without identifying himself, tried to push aside the young men. In the ensuing scuffle, uniformed police quickly descended like hawks, making legal prey of six men and one woman.

Two face a single charge of inciting to riot while the crowd yelled at the police. Another is charged with a single count of assault on a government official. The other three face multiple charges, including the two just mentioned, plus "resisting, delaying, and obstructing a law enforcement officer." Their next court date is May 3. For more information, email [greensboro7@gmail.com](mailto:greensboro7@gmail.com)

simply leave the building.

VCNV member Mike Ferner, who was fasting, had waited in the hallway. Shortly after the DAWN members had to leave, he saw his hometown congressman and Appropriations committee member Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) arrive. Ferner greeted her, and she asked if he would be attending the hearing.

"No, it seems to be pretty filled up with staff and lobbyists," he replied. Kaptur escorted him in, telling the Sergeant-at-Arms she wanted to find a seat for her constituent, a Vietnam Veteran for Peace and former Toledo city council member.

After the business of the Dubai ports deal was concluded, much of the media left the room, and Ed Kinane of VCNV slipped in and took a seat by Ferner.

Ferner writes about what happened next, just after the committee approved an amendment to the war funding bill that shifted future Veterans Administration construction funding to current hospital operations.

"I rose to my feet, wearing a Navy pea coat with my third class Petty Officer insignia, and my Veterans For Peace cap. 'My name is Mike Ferner, from Ohio. I served as a Navy Hospital Corpsman during the Viet Nam war,' I began, 'And if you really want to do something about the numbers of wounded and disabled veterans coming back to our VA hospitals, the best thing you can do is STOP THIS WAR!'

"Introducing Ed as he scrambled to unfold the banner, I told a now-attentive Appropriations Committee that we were on day 22 of a 34-day fast

against the war, and that 'speaking for the majority of Americans who are now against this war, we say, STOP THE KILLING!'

"Listen to just a few names of the victims of our government's war," I demanded, and was able to announce two Marines, Daniel Bubb, 19, and Christopher Poston, 20, and two Iraqi citizens, Ahmed Khalaf, and Hamza Khuzai, before two Capitol Police officers grabbed me and ripped the paper out of my hands.

"Refusing to go quietly into the night as I was hustled from the chamber, I looked several representatives in the eye and said, 'Those are the names of dead veterans from this war. You are violating international laws - you are committing war cri--' and then it was face down on the hallway floor."

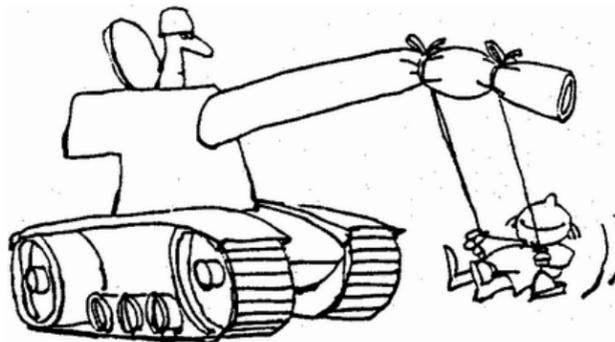
Kinane and Ferner were charged with disrupting a congressional hearing and held until after midnight. Both men continued their fast until trial on March 8. Kinane pleaded no contest, and Ferner guilty, to one count each of disrupting a congressional hearing. Both gave passionate pre-sentencing statements drawing on their experience of war; Ferner in Vietnam and Iraq, Kinane in Iraq through the first weeks of the invasion.

Kinane explained his plea:

"I plead 'nolo contendere' because I can plead neither innocent nor guilty. I can't plead innocent because I indeed did try to unfurl my banner. I can't plead guilty because, examining my heart, I find no guilt. I am not ashamed of my action; I acted in full accord with my conscience. May each of us do whatever we can to end this heinous war as soon as humanly possible."

Both men were sentenced to time served.

For more information, contact Voices for Creative Nonviolence, (773)573-5380, [www.vcnv.org](http://www.vcnv.org)



# THE INSIDE LINE

~from Jackson County



*Editors' note: After a month in the relative comfort of the Pottawattamie County Jail, where he wrote this primer on serving time and prisoner support, Frank Cordaro was shipped off to the Jackson County Jail in Kansas. Conditions there, he writes, are "a real hole." His recent letter continued, "My life did improve yesterday - we got a new light bulb in our cell. That means I can read and write in my cell instead of the common room where the TV blares and the noise is the most intense." The average stay for federal prisoners at Jackson County Jail is 90 days.*

March 30, 2006 -- Prison Journal #3

How to do "good time" in six month intervals

by Frank Cordaro

The challenge for me is to live each day making the time serve me instead of me serving the time. So far, I'm winning but not without a plan.

This is my eighth six-month bit in my peacemaking career. So I consider myself an expert in doing 180-day stretches. The most important thing is to make sure your significant personal relationships are solidly behind you. They need not agree with your peacemaking ways. Few of us peacemaking outlaws can boast of total support of our nonviolent resistance actions from family and friends, yet to have the love and support of family and friends is most helpful. All of my significant relationships and family are solidly supporting me. It cannot be overstated how helpful this is.

It's also important that your work and responsibilities outside jail are not hurt or significantly diminished while you're locked up. In this regard, I am greatly blessed. As a member of the Des Moines Catholic Worker (DMCW) community, we are committed to supporting community members who risk jail time for non-violently resisting war. These last few years the DMCW community has been able to afford the loss of a few community members to serve jail time while the everyday work of hospitality carries on. As DMCWer Ed Bloomer is fond of telling me, "Frank, we're out here for you, brother, so you can be in there for us." Spoken as a true Catholic Worker!

It's important to have a good support system in place before you get locked up. Best not to assume it will just happen. Support needs to be thought out and prepared beforehand. Everybody's needs and circumstances are different, so what goes for support will vary from person to person. Again, past experience has helped me put in place a support system that makes my doing "good time" possible.

My first support principle is never to go to jail alone. Bring as many people as you can into the experience. The reason being that should you be unjustly treated while locked up, your friends and support people on the outside can come to your aid. This was the case last year in the Polk County Jail when I was not given needed heart medicines. There are lots of ways to bring people into the jail experience. One way we are doing this this time is through my 460 plus email support list in which friends and supporters are receiving my written journals and lectionary reflections and updates when needed.

Key to any support system is to have people designated and assign specific tasks. People you can count on to do what they said they would do. In this regard, I am doubly blessed! Fellow DMCW and Berrigan House resident, Fran Fuller, is serving as my main support person. This is Fran's third tour of duty with this assignment.

Fran is doing double duty. She has taken over job responsibilities I have at the Catholic Worker while I'm gone... She is also the person who keeps tabs of my whereabouts and well being while I'm locked up. If I am in trouble and need help, Fran is my first responder. She knows who to call and if she does not, she will find out. She edits my prison journals. She is in charge of my email support list and emails my prison journals and

lectionary reflections and updates. She makes sure I have enough money in my jail account. I call her twice a week. Fran Fuller is doing this six month sentence just as much as I am and I'm blessed for her unsung efforts and support.

Once locked up, a disciplined life that gives meaning and focus to each day served is most helpful. For me, this begins with paying attention to my physical, spiritual and emotional needs.

When I was younger, the main issues in doing jail time were social. How well would I handle living with an inmate population? As I've gotten older, my physical concerns have become critical. My first physical concern is getting my needed heart meds. I am getting them and I am grateful. Exercise is another physical concern and even though we never get outdoors, I walk three hours a day: 2 hours at Rec time and another hour in the unit. This is hard on my feet. The shower shoes they give us are not the best walking shoes. If I wear three pairs of socks and band-aids on critical toes, I get by. Within a few weeks, my feet have adjusted to the regimen. Diet is important also for physical well being. ...The food here ain't half bad for a county jail. A major discipline effort is needed to avoid eating too much junk food from the jail store.

I've discovered that dealing with futures in commodities can be just as risky in jail as out of jail. My desire for fresh fruit is well known in the Mod. During the week, a number of deals are made for the future apples and oranges that come on the weekends. A hamburger, chicken on the bone, a couple of hot dogs and two honey buns were given up in exchange for weekend fruit. During a cell shake down on Sunday night, I got caught with a bag of apples and oranges. I not only lost the fruit, I was locked down in my cell for 24 hours.

Meeting spiritual and emotional needs are perhaps most important to doing "good time." This is best done for me through a discipline routine of praying, reading and writing.

Prayer:

I used to say I was a better priest in jail than out of jail. One reason for this is my prayer life was much better in jail. This is because my immediate needs and challenges are greater. Jails and prisons are not easy places to be, even the best of them. The separation from loved ones, the loss of freedom and personal control, living in close quarters with other men, many of them with serious personal and social problems, the noise, the smells, all are hard on a person emotionally. And though you are never alone, loneliness is the most common experience because everyone does their own time, with nothing but "time" to reflect over and over, week after week, day after day, hour after hour, minute after minute, the circumstances that landed you in jail. Prayer on the outside is often optional. Prayer on the inside is a necessity for survival...

I first got introduced to praying the Psalms while in jail in 1983. They are powerful, personal prayers with a full range of human emotions and needs expressed. In recent years, I've been troubled by all the

violence found in the Psalms, especially the violence attributed to God. Like all human prayers, they are flawed. These days I make efforts to overlook the violence in the Psalms and focus on the heart and spirit of the voice in the Psalm with its human anguish, need and trust in God...

Reading:

Good reading is not easy to come by in these places. More often than not in county jails you are not allowed to have any books sent in to you. You are limited to what is available in the jail. It is no different here. We are limited to a small book rack in the Mod with no more than 200 books and most of them I would never read even while locked up. When I first arrived, I read the three best books on the rack: two John Grisham books, *The Testament* and *The Painted House*, and James Michener's *Chesapeake*. After these three books, it was slim pickings...

One thing I sorely miss here is access to the news. We get little to none here. The best it gets for me is watching the first 15 minutes of the 5:30 p.m. national news on TV before our 5:45 p.m. lockdown. We can't hear the TV over the noise in the Mod. We have to read the text in closed-caption. This has all changed for me this last week. I started receiving the New York Times in the mail. Glory be to God! It just don't get any better.

Writings:

The most self-indulgent thing I do is to enlist my selfless support people to take my prison journals and lectionary scribbling in their raw handwritten form, edit them, type them into cyberspace, and have them emailed to my prison support list...

The discipline of writing a reflection for the Sunday Lectionary text reminds me of a song in the musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*, that Tevia, the main character sings, called "If I Were a Rich Man." In one of the verses, Tevia sings if he were a rich man he would not have to work very hard and he would have time to study the Holy Book. I am living out this verse in Tevia's song for I am truly a rich man who does not have to work very hard and has lots of time to study the Holy Book. This discipline more than anything else I do enriches my soul as I'm doing my time here in Pottawattamie County.

As good as all this is, I know it can all change in a moment's notice. All I need to hear is, "Cordaro, roll it up. The U.S. Marshals are here to pick you up." And when that happens, my whole world changes. I could easily go to a more difficult place. It could take weeks to get situated into a new jail with its own routine and schedules, pluses and negatives. And to re-create the self disciplines of prayer, writing and reading is never easy. Even so, I am confident I have the building blocks in place to make any new jail or prison work for me and not against me.

[Frank Cordaro is a former Catholic priest serving six months in prison for trespass at STRATCOM, the Strategic Nuclear Command Center at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha.]

## Resistance on the Third Anniversary, cont.

continued from page 6

domestic and foreign military sales contracts.

On the afternoon of March 20, six peace activists blockaded the road leading into the plant, intending to halt shipments of bombs and missiles. They stretched yellow "Caution" tape across the road between two barricades. Two people stood holding a long banner which demanded "Stop the Killing", while the other four sat on the pavement, holding signs reading "Road Closed to War-Making."

Forty supporters held other signs and banners by the side of the road while the three men and three women were arrested and taken to waiting sheriff's vehicles. They were released nearby about an hour later, each

charged with five misdemeanors, equal to the number of spaces available for separate charges on a single arrest ticket: unlawful assembly, disorderly conduct, obstructing a highway, being a public nuisance and being a pedestrian on a roadway. They await arraignment.

### Valley Forge, Pennsylvania

Brandywine Peace Community in Philadelphia organized two anniversary memorial events on the theme of *Mourning to Resistance - Not Another Death, Not Another Dollar*. Hundreds of people, many wearing multi-colored posters announcing the theme, attended a candlelight vigil on the evening of March 19 at the anti-war memorial across from the Liberty Bell and

Independence Hall. At noon the following day, about 20 people gathered in a circle of mourning and silent reflection in front of Lockheed-Martin's facility in suburban Valley Forge.

The quiet was broken as a wailing siren and the pounding of drums signaled the start of a blockade of the Iraq war's chief profiteer. Traffic cones were placed across the entry road, each with a Mourning to Resistance poster, and "Crime Scene - Do Not Enter" yellow tape strung back and forth between them. Eleven people joined the blockade, and were arrested later for disorderly conduct as they began approaching the main doors of the facility. All were cited and released.

# TMI Anniversary Action and More at Vermont Yankee

Anti-nuclear direct action is alive and well in the Connecticut River valley, where the aging Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant is a local concern to residents of neighboring New Hampshire and downstream Massachusetts, as well.

A series of marches and demonstrations have occurred at the Brattleboro corporate office of Entergy, who purchased the plant in 2002 and recently got the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's OK to increase its power generating capacity by 20%. Local opponents, including at least half a dozen direct action affinity groups affiliated with the Citizens Awareness Network, are demanding the 34-year-old plant be shut down before its 40-year lifetime license expires, while Entergy is lobbying the NRC for a 20-year license extension.

The power increase was announced Friday morning, March 3. That afternoon, ten people used duct tape and black plastic to cover the entrance to Entergy's corporate headquarters. The protest denounced Entergy's callous attitude towards an expected 26% increase in routine radiation releases that comes with the increase in power generation. Police arrived an hour later as the protest ended, and made no arrests.

On March 28, the 27th anniversary of the nearly catastrophic Three Mile Island nuclear reactor meltdown in Pennsylvania, ten people marked a corporate crime scene with yellow tape across Entergy's front entrance, and crowded into the glass vestibule to block the doors. They were arrested, cited and released.

As happened after five such recent actions, the charges were eventually dropped. The county attorney was quoted saying his office did not "have the resources to provide protesters with an additional way to get media coverage."

Protesters got their own media coverage again on April 11 when they brought the protest to the Vermont Yankee plant itself. Not since a news photographer on assignment was threatened with treason for a getting a snapshot of the nuke in 2002 had anyone dared enter the grounds with a contrary notion! But as dawn broke, six women walked into the site, carrying full-size stuffed surrogates, sort-of straw-women who were left leaning on the large "Welcome to Vermont Yankee" sign. Signs held by each effigy declared "I'm not staying! I don't want more radiation!"

The women then drove on to Entergy's headquarters, where they blocked the entrance with a colorful paper chain, each link an alternative energy's name. Brattleboro police arrested them all for trespass, and they were released with citations. They are unlikely to be prosecuted.

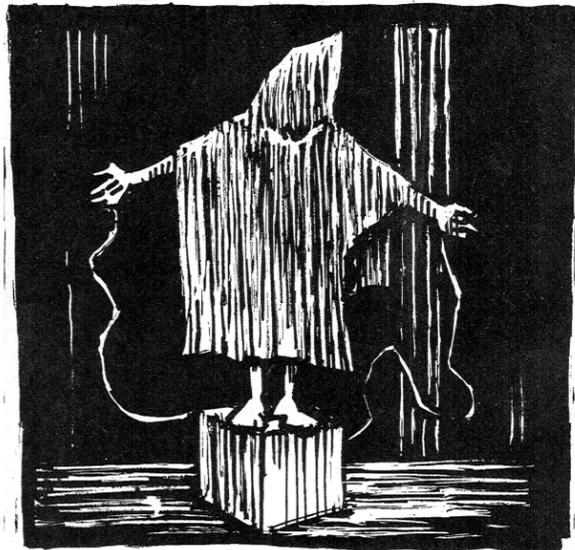
For more information, contact the Traprock Peace Center, [www.traprockpeace.org](http://www.traprockpeace.org) or Deb Katz at Citizens Awareness Network, 413-339-5781 or [Deb@nukebusters.org](mailto:Deb@nukebusters.org), [www.nukebusters.org](http://www.nukebusters.org)

## WITNESS AGAINST TORTURE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

On Ash Wednesday, about 75 people processed through Washington, D.C., dressed as Guantanamo guards and prisoners of the so-called War on Terror. The solemn protest was led by Witness Against Torture. More than two dozen members of the group had gone to Cuba in December, walked to Guantanamo, and vigiled outside the isolated U.S. Navy base where the illicit prison stands. This time they were joined by supporters, including students from the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University in Minnesota. Their peripatetic vigil against the government's practice of torture and indefinite detention departed from the Supreme Court, moved past the Capitol and Justice Department, and concluded at the White House.

Jennifer Harbury, a human rights lawyer whose public fasts led to the disclosure of evidence that her Guatemalan husband had been tortured and killed under CIA supervision, spoke to the group about the history of U.S. participation in torture. Christine Husby, a lawyer representing prisoners at Guantanamo, gave the group an update on the situation of the Guantanamo hunger strikers. Orlando Tizon, a Filipino torture victim and member of the Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition, recited a poem reflecting on Guantanamo and his personal experience with torture.

At the White House, the group read passages from the Bible related to Ash Wednesday and repentance. Individuals placed ashes in the form of crosses, covering the White House sidewalk.



Graphic from a set by Matt Wuerker in *Justice Matters*

"This is for the children who have lost their hope and childhood while in U.S. custody," proclaimed Mark Colville while laying the ashes.

"These ashes are for the tears of the children and the wives of those in Guantanamo," said Susan Crane.

"My ashes represented the hopes of parents in the U.S. who wanted to raise their children in a democracy that protected the human rights of all people," explained Jackie Allen-Doucot.

## Jumpstart Ford

Climate-change and anti-war activists joined together for a "Fossil Fools" action on March 21. Five people locked themselves to oil barrels, blockading a Ford dealership in Palo Alto, California to demand that the automaker take the lead in producing alternative fuels and autos that reduce America's addiction to oil. The Jumpstart Ford campaign teamed up with local CODEPINK, Raging Grannies, Veterans for Peace, Peace Action, and others for the demonstration. Signs declaring "30,000+ Killed in a War for Oil" and T-shirts with the Ford logo and words "Building Cars to Die For" drove home the dual message.

The five were arrested for trespass and released, after police used bolt cutters to remove their locks. For more information, visit [jumpstartford.com](http://jumpstartford.com)

## U.S. Mission to U.N. Arrests

A delegation of visiting Iraqi women and their American hosts were blocked in their attempt to deliver a petition for peace in Iraq to the United States Mission to the United Nations on March 6. At least 50 people had marched from United Nations Plaza to the nearby temporary offices of Ambassador Bolton and the U.S. Mission, carrying petitions representing the signatures of 72,000 people in support of a peace plan to withdraw U.S. forces and use a U.N. peacekeeping force to help calm Iraq.

As they approached the office building, police tried to force the group to a protest zone across the street. At the lead were CODEPINK co-founder Medea Benjamin, Rev. Patricia Ackerman, Cindy Sheehan, mother of a soldier killed in action, and Missy Comley Beattie, aunt of another fallen soldier. The four women pressed on, and sat down with linked arms in front of the locked door. They asked only that their representative to the U.N. or his staff come down and accept their piece of paper.

## MILITARY RECRUITERS OFF CAMPUS!

The role of military recruiting on college campuses continues to be the subject of sharp debate at a number of schools. And because of the unique relationships between students, school administrators, and the government, some who protest face harsh discipline, even if their conduct does not warrant criminal charges.

Students Against War at the University of California at Santa Cruz claimed a victory on April 11 when 150 students marched on a job fair being held on campus. It was the third consecutive time that military recruiters were confronted by the student organization when they came on campus.

Administrators had segregated the military recruiters from the others, so any protest would not have a negative impact on the other job fair participants. Ironically, it left the military more vulnerable to the mass of protesting students, whose boisterous presence simply prevented the recruiters from speaking to potential soldiers through a series of sit-ins and other measures.

After 90 minutes of fruitless negotiations between the students and campus security, punctuated by pushing and shoving some students out of the way rather than arresting them, the recruiters packed up and left on their own. A rock was allegedly thrown at a recruiter's departing SUV. When an officer chased after the alleged rock thrower, a legal observer followed with his camera. But it was the legal observer who was briefly arrested for obstruction, then released a short while later without being charged.

Three days later at San Francisco State University, campus police arrested ten members of Students Against War, forcibly removing them from a gymnasium where they had peacefully, if also noisily, challenged the military recruiters. A month earlier, the group had effectively chased recruiters off of their campus. This time, police gave no warning as they quickly confronted the protest and began physically removing the activists from the scene. The ten students were charged with "willfully disrupting the orderly operation" of the educational institution, and barred from campus for up to 14 days. For three students who live in campus housing, this meant no home of their own for three days until a barrage of phone calls caused administrators to relent. The threat of disbanding the Students Against War chapter remains a disciplinary option.

For more information, contact Students Against War at [saw.revolt.org](http://saw.revolt.org).

Fifteen people were arrested for demonstrating without a permit, but later learned that the charges were not filed. Many of those arrested are among ten members of the group facing prosecution for traveling to Cuba. The ten have refused a demand to provide the government with more information about their trip, and have heard nothing more.

For more information, contact Witness Against Torture, (347)683-4928, [press@witnessstorture.org](mailto:press@witnessstorture.org) or visit [witnessstorture.org](http://witnessstorture.org)

"It is absolutely absurd that they will not accept a piece of paper," Benjamin told the press who were covering the event. "We do not want to be arrested, but we are sick and tired of a government [that] will not listen to us."

Sheehan then began to loudly read the demands of the petition, as they appeared on a big pink and white banner. Police moved in, grabbed the banner and pulled Sheehan with it as she held on. She was pulled to the ground and cuffed. The other women were also roughly pulled away from the door and arrested.

They were all charged with trespass and misdemeanor resisting arrest, and held about 20 hours before being released. The women are due back in court in late April. For more information, contact CODEPINK for Peace, 2010 Linden Ave., Venice, CA 90291, [info@codepinkalert.org](mailto:info@codepinkalert.org).

## Lockheed-Martin

The 29th consecutive Brandywine Peace Community Good Friday observance took the theme *Mourning to Resistance: Good Friday Stations of Peace and Justice*. When organizers arrived at Lockheed Martin's Valley Forge, Pennsylvania weapons complex on the morning of April 14, they found the main driveway entrance was already shut down. The head of security told them, "It's all yours."

A full size coffin was set upright at the driveway entrance, with a large Lockheed Martin logo on it reading "We're making a killing!"

The stations and readings paralleled the last steps and crucified death of Jesus Christ with resurgent militarism, and the trampling of human needs and rights beneath the cross of war. After each reading, a cross was carried into the driveway entrance and the cross bearer faced the main intersection as many hundreds of cars passed by.

By the 12th station, Jesus Dies on the Cross, a line of crosses was being held across the entire width of the entryway. To a broadcast of "Adagio for Strings", those in the driveway laid their crosses down, and began a procession up the drive bearing one large cross, draped in purple and white cloth with Lockheed Martin logos at the crucifixion nail points. A solid line of corporate security kept the procession from delivering the cross to Lockheed Martin. Police surrounded and began arresting the activists. The bearers of the large upright cross were among the last to be arrested, and as they were taken into custody, the head of security was left holding the upright cross.

Fifteen people were arrested, cited for disorderly conduct, and released without court dates.

For more information, contact Brandywine Peace Community, POB 81, Swarthmore, PA 19091, [brandywine@juno.com](mailto:brandywine@juno.com)

## Nevada Test Site

Over the last 25 years, hundreds of people have walked the 65-miles from Las Vegas to the Nevada nuclear weapons Test Site for the cause of abolishing nuclear weapons. This year, the annual pilgrimage sponsored by Nevada Desert Experience began on Sunday, April 9 in Las Vegas and concluded at the gates of the test site on April 14, Good Friday. During the walk, participants honored and celebrated the many interfaith religious holidays taking place that week including Buddha's birthday, Passover, Holy Week, Mohammed's birthday and a full moon. Some participated for a day, others for the entire walk.

On a gray Good Friday, fifteen Nuclear Stations of the Cross were set up inside the peace-graffiti filled culvert that passes under U.S. Highway 95, between the historic peace camp site and the test site entrance at Mercury. About three dozen people joined in the Catholic litany adapted for the occasion as they processed to the boundary. While voicing prayers for healing the world and the end of nuclear weapons testing, about two dozen people lay prostrate at the line, a barrier that blocked the road. As they moved together to cross the line, a clap of thunder sounded. All were cited for trespass and later released at the site.

Two weeks earlier, the 25th Lenten Desert Experience - *Speaking from the Heart: Testimony & Healing in the Desert* - took place in Las Vegas Friday and Saturday and concluded Sunday morning April 2 at the test site. The sunrise ceremony was led by Western Shoshone spiritual man Corbin Harney. Following a liturgy led by Fr. Steve Kelly, who was among 19 line crossers at the first Lenten Desert Experience in 1982, 35 people were cited for crossing the line. The three-day event included those whose lives have been significantly marked by the nuclear age: those who survived the bombing of Hiroshima, those who lived downwind of the Nevada Test Site, Western Shoshone whose territory the Test Site occupies, those who worked in the nuclear industry, those who were employed at the Nevada Test Site, those who opposed nuclear testing, and those who arrested them at the site. Together, participants sought answers to the questions: *How do we create peace within ourselves and in the world? How do we speak to those with whom we disagree? How do we communicate across our social, political, religious and economic differences? What does it mean to integrate nonviolence in every relationship in our lives?*

For more information, contact the Nevada Desert Experience, 1420 W. Bartlett Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106, (702)646-4814, [info@nevadadesertexperience.org](mailto:info@nevadadesertexperience.org).

# Holy Week

*On the liturgical calendar of Christian war resistance, the Holy Week between Palm Sunday and Easter holds the most prominent place. The suffering of Jesus at the hands of an imperial, occupying state power reminds believers of the suffering inflicted today on impoverished peoples under government and corporate domination, while the Resurrection holds hope for the future.*



## Groton

Over 60 people followed the Stations of the Cross in the Days of Torture at the Naval Submarine Base in Groton, Connecticut on Good Friday. Three activists - Mickey Allen, Christopher Allen-Doucot, and Stephen Kobasa - were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct for blocking traffic into the base. They were released on a promise to appear in court April 28.

## Pentagon

About 75 people attended the Atlantic Life Community's annual Holy Week Faith and Resistance retreat in Washington, D.C. Throughout the retreat, prayer and reflections appropriate to the theme - *Who are we betraying, arresting, torturing, and crucifying today?* - were incorporated into each day's agenda. Through the nonviolent direct action, participants sought to ask those questions in public, and encourage others to think about them as well.

At the Pentagon Thursday morning, April 13, song and prayer greeted workers. Betsy Lamb, Brian DeRouen, and Susan Crane blocked an entry checkpoint as they held a banner that said, "No Torture, No War." They were quickly arrested. Others hammered nails into a life-sized wooden cross, and a person fully hooded in an orange jumpsuit stood against it, as if crucified. Some workers were visibly affected by the witness. The arrestees were soon released and rejoined the group that afternoon.

On Good Friday, at the White House, two people in orange jumpsuits carried an eight-foot cross on their backs, leading a solemn procession through Lafayette Park. At the front of the White House they stopped and stood with banners, singing and reading aloud as people dressed as detainees again stood at the cross as if crucified. The Park Police immediately told them they could not have the cross on the sidewalk, but after some reflection, they relented to give the cross a pass, since it was Good Friday. Police let the demonstration continue and conclude without arrests.

For more information, contact Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, 503 Rock Creek Church Rd., Washington, DC 20010, 202-882-9649, or visit [jonah-house.org](http://jonah-house.org).

## Livermore

Under threatening weather on Good Friday, about 200 people gathered at the corner of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, California, for the annual worship and witness organized by the Ecumenical Peace Institute/Clergy and Laity Concerned and the Livermore Conversion Project. Marylia Kelley of TriValley CAREs gave an update on current activities at the nuclear weapons lab before worship.

Worship concluded with a liturgical dance presentation that portrayed beating swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks, and led to blocking the gates to the lab. Fifty-seven people were arrested and booked on a minor charge, with no court date set.

## Easter at Camp Casey

President Bush avoided his Crawford, Texas, ranch over Easter, perhaps reluctant to bring any more attention to the revival of Camp Casey. The protest outpost near the vanity ranch was repopulated for the holiday by dozens of peace advocates: Iraq war veterans, soldiers' families, and the surviving relatives of soldiers killed in action, including Cindy Sheehan, the mother of camp namesake Casey Sheehan, killed two years ago in Iraq.

When they arrived in Crawford, a trial date had still not been set for the Prairie Chapel 12, arrested in November as they challenged a new ordinance forbidding their camp along the road near the ranch. On Good Friday, 14 people, including 11 of the 12 arrested last November, again climbed into tents in the wide, shallow ditch along the county road that leads to the President's spread. They were arrested and cited for violating the same ordinance. After posting bail, they were released that evening.

Before the action, Pentagon whistleblower and Prairie Chapel 12 defendant Daniel Ellsberg told the press, "If they keep arresting us without charging us, then they are doing nothing other than restricting our freedom of speech. This needs to be challenged, and if we're arrested again, we'll have a stronger case."

For more information, contact the Crawford Peace House, 9142 East 5th St., Crawford, Texas 76638-3037, 254-486-0099.

## More Vines and Fig Trees Planted

On Good Friday, six vine and fig tree planters were arrested after planting an orchard at the Ericsson Microwave arms factory in Mölndal, Sweden. Two came from Denmark and England, and the others came from The Church of Sweden, the Mission Covenant Church of Sweden and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation. They planted a vine by the fence, then climbed over and continued the planting of fig trees and vines on a green area by one of Microwave's buildings. While they planted, they initiated a conversation with the guards.

"We have read the prophet Micah's vision that each of us should sit under his vine and his fig tree, and nobody should threaten him or her. As Christians, we believe that the prophet's visions are something we must begin to live here and now, and not wait passively," said Klaus Engell-Nielsen. "The planting is a way to connect our Christian faith to our resistance to injustices."

"Everything went very calmly," says Ulla Roder of Denmark, one of the planters and a fugitive from "justice" in Scotland for a disarmament action three years ago. The police arrived after a few minutes and took the six planters into custody, holding one overnight.

"Vines and fig trees are in the Bible powerful symbols for peace, security, freedom from oppression. Through our planting, we want to begin on the transformation of this area that we think must occur, from weapons production to an enterprise that manufactures something that gives people security," says Annika Spalde.

"This is proactive resistance - not a protest action," says Les Gibbons from the United Kingdom. "We are not saying 'No' or asking our leaders to do the job for us. We want to begin on the change that we want to see and invite others to take part."

A companion vine-and-fig-tree planting action occurred last August at the Aldermaston nuclear weapons establishment west of London. Eight of the nine who were arrested then stood trial for criminal damage in February. They were convicted after a two day trial, fined £201 each and sentenced to four weeks in prison, suspended.

For more information, contact Annika Spalde, tel. +46 (0)76-246 1994.

# Australians Face Special Charges for Pine Gap Inspection

Following a committal hearing April 20 in Alice Springs, four Australian activists who undertook a citizens' inspection of the sensitive and remote Pine Gap military communications station last December are to stand trial later this year for criminal damage and entering a prohibited area. Donna Mulhearn, Bryan Law, Adele Goldie, and Jim Dowling are the first people ever prosecuted under a 1952 Defence Special Undertakings Act, a prosecution that required the approval of the Attorney General. The activists, who acted openly and with permission of the traditional Aboriginal custodian of the land under the banner Christians Against All Terrorism face up to seven years in prison if convicted.

This special prosecution was first threatened by Defence Minister Robert Hill when the group told him of their intentions last year. The decision to prosecute on the unprecedented charges was made public only a few days before the April hearing, when the defendants received their summons.

At the committal hearing, the defendants told the court they believe Pine Gap played a vital role in the initial targeting of U.S. missiles that struck Iraq, and their duty under international law obliged them to take nonviolent action. The criminal damages are alleged to total AU\$12,000, the amount billed by Raytheon Corporation to repair three cuts in the security fence under their contract to operate Pine Gap. Goldie, Dowling and Mulhearn are also accused of using a camera in a prohibited area (see p. 6 photo, NR #140).

The defendants used the hearing to make further inquiries about possible criminal operations at Pine Gap, but were repeatedly told that the answers to their questions were classified. The judge determined there was cause to proceed, and the four remain free pending their arraignment on the national security and criminal damage charges on June 5.

Dowling is also waiting for a verdict on a separate matter. He was on trial for two days in March on charges of resisting arrest and hindering police last September, when he was forcibly removed from a public appearance by Peter Dutton, his representative in the national legislature. Dowling testified he was quietly leaving the room to leaflet the departing audience when police targeted him for a work-over. Two police reports that are supposed to be filed independently by the officers involved were shown to contain large portions of identical language, even with the same misspellings. Police wrote and testified that he repeatedly shouted "Dutton your [sic] a killer!" but eight defense witnesses insisted no one heard any shouting or altercation until Dowling was forced out of the hall via a side door. The magistrate has yet to render a verdict.

For more information, contact Jim Dowling at [penangke@octa4.net.au](mailto:penangke@octa4.net.au)

# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## RAF Iraq Refuser Jailed

A Royal Air Force medical doctor has been sentenced to eight months in jail after refusing orders to serve in Iraq. Flight Lt. Malcolm Kendall-Smith was convicted by five officers hearing his case on April 12 and 13 in Aldershot, England. Australian-born Kendall-Smith, who is a dual U.K./New Zealand citizen, defended his decision to refuse five orders to train, prepare and deploy to Iraq in 2005. He contended the war is illegal and thus so are the orders to serve. But the chief judge ruled before the trial began that British troops were in Iraq in accord with United Nations resolutions. As an officer, Kendall-Smith will serve his time in a civilian prison. He was also discharged from the Air Force and ordered to pay £20,000 toward his defense costs.

Kendall-Smith wrote:

"I have been convicted and sentenced, a very distressing experience. But I still believe I was right to make the stand that I did and refuse to follow orders to deploy to Iraq - orders I believe were illegal. I am resigned to what may happen to me in the next few months. I shall remain resilient and true to my beliefs which, I believe, are shared by so many others.

"Iraq was the only reason I could not follow the order to deploy. As a commissioned officer, I am required to consider every order given to me. Further, I am required to consider the legality of such an order not only as to its effect on domestic but also international law. I was subjected, as was the entire population, to propaganda depicting force against Iraq to be lawful. I have studied in very great depth the various commentaries and briefing notes, including one prepared by the Attorney General, and in particular the main note to the PM dated 7 March 2003. I have satisfied myself that the actions of the armed forces with the deployment of troops were an illegal act - as indeed was the conflict. To comply with an order that I believe unlawful places me in breach of domestic and international law, something I am not prepared to do.

"The invasion and occupation of Iraq is a campaign of imperial military conquest and falls into the category of criminal acts. I would have had criminal responsibility vicariously if I had gone to Iraq. I still have two great loves in life - medicine and the RAF. To take the decision that I did caused great sadness, but I had no other choice."



Letters of support should be sent to Malcolm Kendall-Smith, HMP Chelmsford, 200 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex, United Kingdom CM2 6LQ.



## "Serious Criminals" at Menwith Hill

On April 1, grandmothers Helen John and Sylvia Boyes walked through the main gate at Menwith Hill spy base in Yorkshire, England. They were wearing peace placards in anticipation of being arrested for criminal trespass in breach of a new law, the Serious Organised Crimes and Police Act, which came into effect that day. The penalty for trespass is up to one year in jail, and for "going equipped," up to ten years. The women went equipped with a hammer and cable cutters.

They are the first peace protesters to enter a U.S. base to directly challenge the new law. The Act applies to 13 military sites beginning April 1, and to all nuclear sites beginning April 14. John and Boyes, with ten grandchildren between them, are veterans of the 1980s Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp and multiple nuclear resistance actions and peace camps since then.

They were held in custody for over 12 hours because the Crown Prosecution Service could not decide whether or not to charge them under the new Act. Eventually the Director of Public Prosecutions gave a ruling - to defer the decision until May 10, when the women must report to Harrogate police to face charges.

If the case goes to court it will be a test case and should go eventually to the House of Lords and possibly the European Court of Human Rights. If it doesn't, Boyes and John intend to repeat the action until it does.

For more information, contact [anneleemhs@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:anneleemhs@yahoo.co.uk)

(Thanks to Anne Lee for this report.)

# Korean Farmers Resist Eviction for Expanding U.S. Base

On March 6, South Korean military riot police tried to take over an elementary school in the autonomous village of Daechuri, for use as an office to oversee expansion of the Camp Humphreys U.S. Army base. Resident farmers, elderly residents and peace activists barricaded themselves inside the elementary school. A few were arrested but later released, and the military plan failed.

Nine days later, more than 4,000 police and private security forces invaded the village, brutally suppressing mass nonviolent resistance. Many residents were injured, three were hospitalized, and at least 37 arrested. Those arrested were held for three days. Park Raegoon and Cho Baeki, two activists with the Sarangbang Human Rights Group who tried to stop a forklift being used for the evictions, were charged and sent to Pyeongtaek Prison. They were reportedly released a month later. Two other residents were charged with assaulting police and will face trial.

The farming town of Daechuri, Korean for "Great Harvest Village," is known for its famous rice. It is harvested from fields created when the farmers, dispossessed

by the original Camp Humphreys runway in 1952, squatted nearby tidal flats and reclaimed new fields with generations of community labor.

For over four years, Daechuri and the nearby community of Doduri have defiantly resisted the seizure of over 500 extended family homes and their fields.

The peaceful villagers have fought the expansion of the base and the theft of their land through all possible legal means while being deceived and ignored. A candlelight "Peace Village" demonstration was organized for over 550 consecutive days.

In December, 2005, authorities exercised eminent domain and legally seized the villages of Daechuri, Doduri and the surrounding fields. The farmers' existence on their own land was now illegal.

Outraged and disillusioned, on February 7 the farmers marched to Pyeongtaek City Hall and burned their residency cards, renounced their Korean citizenship and declared Daechuri an autonomous region. They began organizing the daily life and the defense of their land and community through general councils, independ-

ent of the local government.

The attacks on their land were repeated in early April, when military police cut off the water supply and used heavy equipment to destroy the system of irrigation canals the villagers built. Water was restored a few days later but the situation remains unsettled as the farmers work to plant a new crop and restore irrigation.

U.S. citizens, in whose name the attacks have been carried out, are urged to speak out to their congressional representatives, the Korean Embassy in Washington, and consulates in other cities. See [www.koreaembassyusa.org](http://www.koreaembassyusa.org) for contact details.

Email messages of solidarity for the community should be sent to [savePTfarmers@yahoo.com](mailto:savePTfarmers@yahoo.com), or by mail to Pyeongtaek Residents Action Committee, DaeChu Primary School, 160-12 Daechu-ri, Paengseong-eup, Pyeongtaek-si Gyeonggi-do, South Korea, and the Sarangbang Group for Human Rights, 8-29, Myungryundong 2ga, Jongno-gu, Seoul, Korea 110-522

For more information, visit [www.antigizi.or.kr/english](http://www.antigizi.or.kr/english) and [saveptfarmers.org](http://saveptfarmers.org)

# Jury Hangs Bangor Prosecutors Again

The last three times Kitsap County prosecutors tried to convict people who blockaded the Trident nuclear submarine base at Bangor, Washington, they failed. This month, more than six years later, they tried again. And again, they failed.

The trial of four Olympia residents began on Monday, April 10, on a charge of failure to disperse, where the failure creates a "substantial risk" of injury to persons or to property. In a strange turn of events, the Kitsap County prosecutor had charged only four of the 19 demonstrators last August.

The defendants testified to their deeply held beliefs concerning the threat of nuclear weapons and the Trident submarine system. They explained their careful preparation for each demonstration to ensure the safety of both motorists and participants. After five hours of deliberation, Judge Daniel Phillips learned the jurors' opinions were divided. On Wednesday, April 12, he declared a mistrial. A retrial is unlikely.

For more information, contact the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, 360-779-4672, info@gzcenter.org



# Judge Says Four Not Guilty in White House Protest

Four people arrested at the White House last October 26 were acquitted by Federal Magistrate Deborah Robinson on April 19. They were among 26 people arrested on the occasion of the 2,000th U.S. military fatality in Iraq. After federal prosecutors had made their case for demonstrating without a permit, defendant Gary Ashbeck made the customary motion for acquittal, arguing that the prosecution had not established guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. After some questioning of one of the U.S. attorneys and intense study of relevant cases, Robinson accepted the motion for dismissal and ended the trial of Ashbeck, Eve Tetaz, Paul Martin, and Lynn Robinson. Just before the trial, co-defendant David Slesinger pled no contest and was sentenced to time served. Some of their co-defendants had already paid a fine, and a few others have not responded to the court.

Matt Daloisio and Ward Morehouse, facing the same charge after their arrest at the White House on September 26, were also in the same court April 19. They were the only two to appear, out of the final 30 defendants (from a total of 370) whose cases were continued to join the trial on April 19. Daloisio's charges were dismissed, and Morehouse pled no contest and was sentenced to time served.

In March, Magistrate Robinson had finally reached a guilty verdict against 13 September 26 defendants who were tried in January. For more information, contact Max Obuszewski, 410-323-7200x31.

**IGOR SUTYAGIN:** In December 2005, the imprisoned nuclear disarmament researcher formerly with the U.S. and Canada Institute was transferred to a colony in Arkhangelsk, which is even farther from his family than his previous detention place in Udmurtiya...

**TURI VACCARO:** After serving six months in prison in the Netherlands for disarming a nuclear-capable F-16 warplane last August, the Plowshares activist was to be deported February 6 to his native Italy. Another refugee on the same flight caused some difficulties, and the pilot refused to fly either out of the country. Vaccaro remained in isolation in prison until another deportation flight took him away on February 17. An appeal of his conviction is pending in the Dutch courts...

**JERRY TEXIERO:** The Vietnam-era Marine refuser, who spent five months behind bars before he was discharged by the Corps in January, still faces prosecution in Florida. "This individual needs to spend a little time in state prison," prosecutor Bruce Bartlett told the St. Petersburg Times. Texiero used the name Gerome Conti for over 30 years since he was a professional dance instructor, and had also been using a different Social Security number. Although the former is not a crime and the latter occurred without criminal intent or harm to the true number holder, a status hearing on the charges is set for April 27. A plea agreement is being pursued...

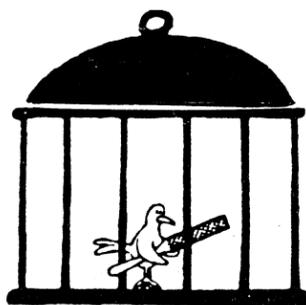
**ALLIANT TECHSYSTEMS:** Trial began March 8 for 42 defendants in Edina, Minnesota, all charged with trespass last October at the state's largest war contractor. After hearing pretrial motions and discussing the procedure for managing such a large number of defendants, the judge ordered a two-day trial but set no date for it to begin. The new Edina ordinance under which they are charged was intended to deny demonstrators a defense of justification or "claim of right" under Minnesota law. That defense has won three protest group acquittals in recent jury trials. A motion to dismiss because this city law contradicted a state statute was rejected by Hennepin County Judge Tony Leung. He told the defendants that if he'd granted the motion then they would have the right to sit-in at his house for making unpopular rulings. At that, defendant and life-long peace activist Marv Davidov rose to his feet and said to the judge, "If you were in there manufacturing depleted uranium munitions, cluster bombs, rocket motors, and land mines, you're goddam right we'd be sitting in at your house!"...

**VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE:** By the time MacGregor's Eddy's trial for trespass - continued since January - resumed in Santa Barbara on March 16, Federal Magistrate Rita Federman had informed Eddy that her defense of necessity under international law would not be heard. Supporters helped organize a luncheon and community meeting the day before, where some of the experts who would have testified for such a defense gave public evidence of war crimes in Iraq and the legitimacy of nonviolent resistance to challenge these violations. In court, Eddy testified briefly on her own behalf before being convicted. After announcing the verdict, Federman acknowledged the long history of nonviolent civil disobedience in the United States, expressing her belief that the right to protest government actions within the law may be one of our most important rights. What kind of sentence this will mean for the convicted trespasser will be clear on June 15, when Eddy is scheduled to be sentenced. The federal prosecutor wants jail time...

**OHIO GRAFFITI:** In 1998 the Ohio legislature, in apparent reaction to a spate of gang-related graffiti, determined that such expression on public property is no simple misdemeanor, but a felony. Thus Mike Ferner begins trial April 17 in Sylvania Township, Ohio, on two felony indictments for painting "TROOPS OUT NOW!" on a highway overpass January 1. Because John Ferner was the driver and does not share his brother Mike's long record of protest arrests, Sylvania accepted John's plea of guilty to a reduced misdemeanor charge and he will be sentenced May 18. In neighboring Maumee, where the slogan was painted on two more overpasses, their attorney managed to have the brothers' charges reduced to a

misdemeanor for a plea agreement. In court February 17, the sentencing judge told the men that as much as "there needs to be a public discourse about the war [such as the one my family has] at the dinner table every night, ...the way you chose to speak out has cheapened that discourse." The penalty he imposed for this cheapening was a \$500 fine per bridge each, \$75 court costs, 75 hours community service, plus three months in jail each, per bridge (suspended) and three years probation...

**HOMER, ALASKA:** Trial has been postponed until May 8 for three people charged with trespassing at Homer High School last January. The three were counter-recruiting at Homer High School while military recruiters were also present, and claim First Amendment protection...



**BOSTON:** A former political prisoner and long-time anti-war activist has been acquitted on charges stemming from his arrest while leafletting outside a Bush fundraiser in the spring of 2004. Richard Picariello also had two other charges dismissed, all because the prosecution failed to provide information required by the court on discovery. Attorneys argued for dismissal through sixteen pre-trial hearings, and in the end successfully demonstrated that he has long been a target for FBI surveillance and that the arrests were politically motivated...

**CLEVELAND HEIGHTS:** Carol Fisher, indicted on two counts of felony assault after police accosted and then manhandled her for posting anti-war flyers in January, has pled not guilty. A pretrial hearing is set for April 18...

**MORDECHAI VANUNU:** On the second anniversary of his release from prison (4/21/04), the Israeli nuclear whistleblower writes that the Israeli government has extended for a third year his restrictions, including preventing his travel abroad, and that he will soon move from St. George's Cathedral to a rented house in Palestinian East Jerusalem. At the latest session (2/22) of his trial for violating the restrictions on communicating with foreigners, Vanunu's attorney argued that much of the evidence seized from his computer was obtained on the false pretense that he was being investigated for espionage, when in fact no espionage charges have been made. Whether or not there is a charge left to answer at all will

be the subject of the trial when it resumes May 1. Updates at [www.vanunu.com](http://www.vanunu.com)...

**SACRED EARTH & SPACE PLOWSHARES:** Three Dominican nuns, still on parole for exposing and symbolically disarming a nuclear missile silo in Colorado in 2002, returned to the scene of the state crime this spring. Sisters Carol Gilbert, Jackie Hudson and Ardeth Platte rallied with supporters at the gate of silo N-8 on April 4. The sisters traveled to Colorado from their homes in Washington state and Maryland to meet with their parole officer about the alternative restitution plan of community service they have pursued in lieu of paying the government. Their offer, under which hundreds of friends and supporters contributed time and money far in excess of the amount due, has not been accepted. Federal Judge Blackburn could still choose to do so. In Greeley, the nuns attended the premier of *Conviction*, a documentary film about their action. See announcements, page 12 for information about ordering this film...

**LARO NICOL:** The Phoenix, Arizona Copwatch and peace activist who was framed on weapons charges after an informant's false testimony led to a raid of his home and baseless allegations of domestic terrorism just before the invasion of Iraq, was moved April 14 to a Phoenix half-way house where he will complete the last two months of his sentence...

**DIANE WILSON:** CODEPINK co-founder and Justice for Bhopal activist Diane Wilson was released from a Texas jail in March. Authorities snared her to serve an overdue 150 day sentence for a 2002 Justice for Bhopal protest, when she was arrested for an anti-war protest at a Republican fundraiser in Houston last December. She served no additional jail time for the anti-war protest...

**COLORADO SPRINGS:** Three people arrested after hanging a banner from the roof of a recruiting station last November had their charges dismissed, apparently because masks they wore at the time prevented their positive identification...

**WHITE HOUSE:** The case of ten people arrested on December 29 has been dropped from the D.C. court docket...

**SEN. OLYMPIA SNOWE:** 10-20 hours of community service, depending on past records, was the sentence given 19 people arrested last January at the Bangor office of the Maine Senator...

## Update Files

# FUTURE ACTIONS

## the declaration of peace

### A Nonviolent Action Campaign to End the U.S. War in Iraq

The Declaration of Peace is a nonviolent action campaign to end the U.S. war in Iraq and bring the U.S. troops home now. By signing the Declaration of Peace, people across the United States will pledge to work actively for an immediate withdrawal from Iraq and take nonviolent action if the U.S. government has not established a comprehensive withdrawal plan by the September 23, 2006 deadline. If a withdrawal plan is not established by September 23 -- days before Congress adjourns for the fall elections -- thousands of people will engage in nonviolent action in Washington, D.C. and in congressional offices and other sites throughout the nation from September 23-30. Nationally coordinated nonviolent activities will continue on a regular basis until the United States withdraws from Iraq.

We seek to launch the Declaration of Peace by May 15 -- we invite your comments, questions and participation! For information, please email kenbutigan@paceebene.org

### The Vision of The Declaration of Peace

The majority of the people of the United States, Iraq, and the rest of the world believe that the U.S.-led war and occupation in Iraq must end. Polls indicate that 70% of U.S. citizens and troops on the ground oppose this war and want the troops home. At this critical time we are called to create tangible and direct ways for this majority to manifest its growing opposition -- and to translate this widespread sentiment into organized, nonviolent people-power for immediate withdrawal and for a concrete, comprehensive withdrawal plan. The Declaration of Peace is a pledge to "declare peace" by participating in a variety of nonviolent activities -- including marches, rallies, lobbying, and nonviolent civil disobedience -- that will raise the visibility of the growing opposition to this war and create sustained nonviolent pressure for bringing the troops home now and for the establishment of a comprehensive exit plan.

### The Goal of the Declaration of Peace: A Comprehensive, Concrete Withdrawal Plan

The Declaration of Peace will call for a comprehensive exit policy, including:

- ◆ Withdrawal of U.S. troops
- ◆ Closure of U.S. military bases
- ◆ Support for an Iraqi-led peace process, including a peace conference to shape a post-occupation transition
- ◆ End to U.S. control of Iraqi oil
- ◆ Reparations for the destruction that this war has caused, and
- ◆ Increased support for U.S. veterans of the Iraq war

### The Declaration of Peace: Campaign Steps

At every step, this campaign will call for the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops and organize a series of steps Declaration of Peace signers can take to reinforce this call. It will also prepare for coordinated action if this is not achieved by September 23. Below are possible nationally coordinated activities and actions signers can take in the run-up to September:

#### April

- ◆ Declaration of Peace Campaign established with range of national organizations
- ◆ Declaration finalized; organizing plan developed; materials produced
- ◆ Committees developed
- ◆ Media and internet strategy developed; launch planned
- ◆ Preview at April 29 Mobilization in New York

#### May

- ◆ Mid-May: Formal Launch of The Declaration of Peace in Washington, D.C. (press conference; launch possibly coincides with AFSC/Code Pink/CCCO/Spiritual Activism Conference);
- ◆ Internet campaign begins
- ◆ Outreach; planning retreats and meetings, more national, regional, and local organizations join the Declaration of Peace campaign
- ◆ Some local and national Declaration of Peace public signing events
- ◆ Planning June local and national "Declaration of Peace" public signing events

#### June

- ◆ National speaking events; strategy meetings across U.S.
- ◆ Nonviolent action training-for-trainers
- ◆ Local and national "Declaration of Peace" public signing events

#### July

- ◆ Action plans begin to be created locally and nationally
- ◆ National Lobby Day: coordinated phone-in and e-mail to Congress and media

- ◆ National Day of Nonviolent Action trainings; begin set of local and regional training

#### August

- ◆ Trainings continue; action planning begins
- ◆ Declaration of Peace events at every Congressional office -- calling on members to "declare peace" by publicly pledging to support and voting for withdrawal legislation; communicate action plans if no timetable is established

#### September

- ◆ Thursday, September 21: International Peace Day: Press conference; 48 hour countdown to September 23 begins

- ◆ September 23: The Declaration of Peace Summit in Washington, D.C. (envisioned as an event where a concrete timetable will be crafted by members of Congress if it has not already been established; supported by thousands of signers inside and outside the "summit").

- ◆ September 23-30: If no concrete, comprehensive withdrawal plan, nonviolent activities and action in cities and communities across the U.S. and in Washington, D.C. are carried out. Activities will be planned for every congressional office -- to encourage allies and to call on those who have not publicly supported a concrete withdrawal plan to do so.

#### October and following

- ◆ Sustained nonviolent action to maintain nonviolent pressure for withdrawal plan.

### The Declaration of Peace: Emerging Partners

Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service developed the Declaration of Peace in partnership with numerous peace organizations and coalitions. This campaign is designed to strengthen and complement current peace movement strategies. Current Declaration of Peace endorsers include the Global Call for Nonviolent Resistance to the War in Iraq; Clergy and Laity Concerned About Iraq; Methodist Federation for Social Action; and Peaceworkers. In addition, Joanne Sheehan (War Resisters International) has agreed to develop a national nonviolence-training network with Pace e Bene for the Declaration of Peace and the Global Call. Other organizations considering becoming partners include United for Peace and Justice; Peace Action; Iraq Pledge of Resistance; Code Pink; The United Methodist Church's General Board of Church and Society; United Church of Christ (it has assigned a staff-person to work with the Declaration); Pax Christi USA; Maryknoll Office for Justice and Peace; and Voices for Creative Nonviolence. American Friends Service Committee is finalizing its exploration process, but has indicated that it will take an active role in organizing the Declaration of Peace.

For more information, comments and questions, please contact Ken Butigan, Pace e Bene (Peace and All Good) Nonviolence Service, 1545 W. Farwell Ave., Chicago, IL 60626, 773-338-8445, (cell)360-402-4761 kenbutigan@paceebene.org, EngageNonviolence.org

Additional information is also available on the Pace e Bene website: [paceebene.org/pace/nvns/essays-on-nonviolence/the-declaration-of-peace](http://paceebene.org/pace/nvns/essays-on-nonviolence/the-declaration-of-peace)



## Stop the merchants of death

The Honeywell Project, in conjunction with the War Resisters League, Alliant Action, Nukewatch, Des Moines Catholic Worker and others, will host a three-day Strategic Conference for Grassroots Activists, September 29 - October 1 in the Twin Cities, followed by civil resistance at Alliant TechSystems on Gandhi's birthday, October 2.

Goals for the conference include bringing together people with a broad analysis and commitment to nonviolence who are focusing on war profiteers at the grassroots, and provide an opportunity to develop and share strategies using examples of corporate campaigns, beginning with the 40-year old Honeywell Project. Clarify goals and help create a network of groups working to stop merchants of death. Confirmed entertainment from Utah Phillips, and from speakers Medea Benjamin, Paul Krassner, Winona Duke, Frida Berrigan, Jack Nelson Pallmeyer and more. For more information, contact G. Simon Harak, National Anti-militarism Coordinator, War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette St., New York City, NY 10025, 212-228-0450x104, [amc@warresisters.org](mailto:amc@warresisters.org)

## mother's day

Return to the roots and celebrate Mothers Day, May 14, as a day of peace, by resisting nuclear weapons at the Navy Submarine Base in Bangor, Washington. For more information, contact the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, 16159 Clear Creek Road NW, Poulsbo, WA 98370, 360-779-4672, [info@gzcenter.org](mailto:info@gzcenter.org).

## u.s. mission to u.n.

Join religious leaders and lay people on May 1 to condemn torture and demand mercy & justice for those imprisoned at Guantanamo. March from the Isaiah Wall (UN Plaza, First Ave. & 43rd St.) to Ambassador Bolton's office (140 East 45th St. at Lexington), and call on him to support the UN's call to Shut Down Guantanamo. Some will occupy the area in front of the U.S. Mission to the U.N. with a Guantanamo cage, the names and stories of the prisoners, and the rich and varied religious traditions we represent. For more information, contact Matt Daloisio, 201-264-4424, [Daloisio@earthlink.net](mailto:Daloisio@earthlink.net) or Frida Berrigan, 347-683-4928, [Frida.Berrigan@gmail.com](mailto:Frida.Berrigan@gmail.com).

## nevada test site

Return to the Nevada Test Site in late May to resist the proposed detonation of "Divine Strake" a massive ammonium nitrate/fuel oil explosion that will simulate the effects of a small nuclear weapon on buried tunnels (not unlike the location of Iranian uranium labs). At press time, nonviolent direct action is being planned for the weekend of May 27-28 at the Test Site, followed by a week long vigil at the Test Site and protests at Federal buildings June 1st and 2nd. For more information, contact the Western Shoshone Defense Project, P.O. Box 211308, Crescent Valley, NV 89821; 775-468-0230, [wsdp@igc.org](mailto:wsdp@igc.org) [www.wsdp.org](http://www.wsdp.org)

## international future actions

## bombspotting 2006

The Bombspotting 2006 campaign is looking for international support for the next phase in the campaign for the global abolition of nuclear weapons. Based in Belgium, the campaign seeks withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons from Europe, and the end of NATO's nuclear weapons strategy. The campaign links the specific role of nuclear weapons to the role of the military in the processes of corporate globalization. Bombspotting 2006 seeks groups to take part in an international com-

*continued on page 12*

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*continued from page 11*

plaint action against NATO nuclear weapons in November 2006, and people to come to an action conference and alternative NATO summit in Brussels on November 25, 2006. International civil resistance actions in NATO member states in support of the complaint process are encouraged. For more information visit [www.motherearth.org](http://www.motherearth.org) or contact For Mother Earth, Maria Hendrikaplein 5, 9000 Gent, Belgium, [david@motherearth.org](mailto:david@motherearth.org)

**faslane 365 - a call to action**

North American anti-nuclear activists are invited to take part in Faslane 365, a civil resistance project focused in Scotland to apply critical public pressure for the disarmament of Britain's nuclear weapons by a continuous peaceful blockade of the Trident submarine base at Faslane. The blockade will not begin until 100 groups have signed up for the first hundred days, hopefully on 1st October 2006.

More info at [www.faslane365.org](http://www.faslane365.org). American activists interested to participate are encouraged to contact Stephen at [skobasa@snet.net](mailto:skobasa@snet.net)

*...In the Name of Democracy: American War Crimes in Iraq and Beyond* by Jeremy Brecher, Jill Cutler and Brendan Smith. This book provides extensive documentation of contemporary war crimes and of the basis in international and national law for resistance. Includes an account of the original trial of the St. Patrick's Four (see page ?). It is fully documented and useful for activists who want clear evidence of war crimes to use in their peace work. A new web site [www.warcrimeswatch.org](http://www.warcrimeswatch.org) provides updated information that has come out since the publication. (Metropolitan Books, 352 pages ISBN: 0805079696)

*...Conviction* tells the story of Sacred Earth and Space Plowshares action of October, 2002. Three Dominican Sisters saw it as their duty, their mission, their religious calling, to break onto a nuclear missile site in Colorado, chant, pour their own blood and risk jail for their beliefs. This film evokes important conversations about the role of Christianity in politics, the role of nuclear weapons in National Defense and the role of International Law in the Federal Courts. Directed/Produced by Brenda Truelson Fox. DVD only, 43 minutes. US\$25 individual/private use, US\$40 organizations. Send check or money order payable to Zero to Sixty Productions, POB 1027, Boulder, CO 80306-1027.

*...Operation Refuse War: An International Conference Of Resisters To Global War* in Washington DC, May 13-14 will be an opportunity for international and American conscientious objectors, anti-war activists, and military families to come together to share strategies and build community. The focus of the events is on supporting contemporary American conscientious objectors and their families, as well as examining the current potential of conscientious objection (in its various forms) as a strategy for building an anti-war movement. Workshop topics include: Conscientious Objection as a Movement-Building Tool, Building Support for COs From the Outside, What does an International CO Movement Look Like?, Personal Stories of Conscientious Objection and Draft Resistance, Connecting Resistance within the Coalition of the Willing, All Wars or This War? Conscientious Objection as a Political or Moral Choice, Building Bridges with Military Families and more. Please register online at [wri-irg.org/co/icod06/](http://wri-irg.org/co/icod06/) or email [register@centeronconscience.org](mailto:register@centeronconscience.org). US\$30 conference registration fee includes Saturday lunch. For more information, contact: Operation Refuse War, c/o War Resisters League, 212-228-0450x102 [youth@warresisters.org](mailto:youth@warresisters.org) [operationrefusewar.org](http://operationrefusewar.org)



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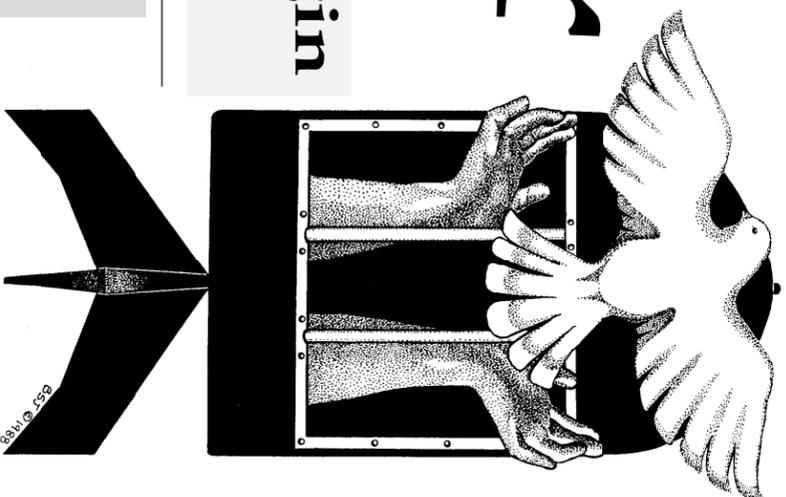
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*inside this issue...*  
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 Writings from Jail  
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