

the Nuclear Resister

"A Chronicle of Hope"

No. 175

September 1, 2014

Hiroshima and Nagasaki Remembered with Resistance

The number of eye-witnesses to the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is declining. Around the globe, annual events are organized to keep their memories alive. Some of these events include nonviolent direct actions that risk arrest to spotlight the ongoing crime of nuclear weapons.

LIVERMORE

The annual Hiroshima Day blockade of the Livermore nuclear weapons laboratory in California was preceded by a program of music and speakers on the theme Failure to Disarm: Holding Our Government Accountable. Speakers pointed to ongoing nuclear weapon "modernization" programs at Livermore Lab and elsewhere in violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and highlighted the recent legal actions by the Republic of the Marshall Islands against the nine nuclear weapons states for their failure to disarm. Midway through the program, an air-raid siren wailed to mark the time of the bombing and the more than 100 participants stood in a minute of silence.

After the rally, they processed to the West Gate of the lab. Following the group participation in a traditional Japanese Bon dance, the sirens sounded again, this time in remembrance of the victims of the atomic bomb dropped by the United States on Nagasaki. Some fell to the ground in a die-in, and others marked the outline of their bodies in chalk and charcoal as a solemn reminder of the shadows of human beings vaporized by atomic bombs 69 years ago. These shadows still haunt the walls and sidewalks of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Police eventually gave the order to disperse from the gate area, and then arrested about 30 people who refused. They were cited for trespass and released at the scene.

For more information, visit trivalleycares.org.

PENTAGON

Seventeen people representing the Atlantic Life Community (ALC) and other peace groups participated in a noon-time silent peace witness at the Pentagon on August 6. Carrying signs, photos of the aftermath of the Hiroshima bombing and banners that read "Remember the Past, Repent the Sin, Reclaim the Future – Hiroshima and Nagasaki" and "Abolish Nuclear Weapons," the group processed from Army-Navy Drive to the regular protest area near the Pentagon metro station.

Instead of going behind a fence into the police designated protest zone, the group initially remained on the sidewalk. Most complied when police warned that everyone move into the designated area or face arrest. However, Kathy Boylan, Eric Martin and Liz McAlister remained on the sidewalk for about fifteen minutes. After more warnings to comply with the order or face arrest, Pentagon police took the three into custody. At the Pentagon police processing center, they were charged with "disobeying a lawful order" and released. Their trial is set for October 17 in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Virginia.

Three days later, ALC members and others, numbering about 40, held a Nagasaki Day memorial vigil and die-in in front of the White House.

For more information, contact Dorothy Day Catholic Worker, dccatholicworker.wordpress.com, 202-882-9649.

LOCKHEED MARTIN

People gathered on the sidewalk in front of the main driveway to the King of Prussia, Pennsylvania complex of Lockheed Martin corporation on August 6. They held signs next to large banners, their messages condemning the killing and slaughter of children, from Hiroshima and Nagasaki to U.S. drones strikes in Pakistan and Yemen, and Israel's slaughter of innocents in Gaza enabled by Lockheed Martin, the world's #1 war profiteer and weapons supplier.

A Memorial to the Innocents lined with a child's stuffed animals and pictures of the Hiroshima Child was



photo © Jim Stevens/Bay Area New Group

Fr. Louis Vitale is placed under arrest and led away from the Livermore nuclear weapons laboratory, August 6, 2014.

placed next to the large wooden sign with the Lockheed Martin logo that for years has accompanied demonstrations there and proclaims "we're making a killing."

A bell tolled for the victims and Tom Mullian shared two of his latest songs. Then came a litany and ceremony of remembrance and peace with water and sunflower seeds, as signs of peace, flung against the large Lockheed Martin sign at the driveway entrance.

Seven people immediately crossed the property line to offer a prayerful plea for the children. Intending on walking to the main lobby entrance, they were immediately stopped by Lockheed Martin security backed up by Upper Merion police and police cruisers blocking the drive. The activists were arrested, cuffed and taken to the police station where they were cited for disorderly conduct and released.

The seven are: Theresa Camerota, Jeff Costello, Rev. David Reppert, Tom Mullian, Paul Sheldon, Fr. Patrick Sieber OFM and Robert M. Smith.

For more information, visit brandywinepeace.com.

BANGOR

This year's Nagasaki Day commemoration of the atomic bombings by the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action in Washington State echoed the August 9 Wool Against Weapons demonstration in England. Wool Against Weapons successfully linked the nuclear weapons factories at Aldermaston and Burghfield with a seven-mile-long knit scarf representing the collective peace actions of thousands around the world.

At the Trident submarine base at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Washington, a 60-foot-long banner assembled like the British version from knit patches in brilliant pinkish hues was displayed by dozens of vigilers alongside the main entry road. Other demonstrators held huge photo images of the devastation in Nagasaki. Many had helped to keep a presence at the gate for the last 24 hours, a presence that encompassed a two-

JUDGE: "THIS HAS GOT TO STOP"

ONE YEAR IN JAIL FOR DRONE WAR FOE

She's out on bail now on appeal, but Mary Anne Grady Flores was sentenced July 9 to one year in jail for violating a temporary Order of Protection (OoP) from the DeWitt, New York town court. The order, typically used to prevent domestic violence and abuse of victims, has been granted by town judges on behalf of the Hancock Air National Guard base commander against more than 50 people who have been arrested over the last two years at peaceful demonstrations outside the gates of the drone warfare training and operations base near Syracuse. Grady Flores is the first to be sentenced for violating the OoP.

Appearing in the town's ad-hoc night court room packed with more than 100 supporters, Grady Flores began her sentencing statement saying, "Your honor, a series of judicial perversions brings me here before you tonight." The grandmother of three concluded that the "final perversion is the reversal of who is the real victim here: the commander of a military base whose drones kill innocent people halfway around the world, or those innocent people themselves who are the real ones in need of protection from the terror of U.S. drone attacks?"

Grady Flores had been issued a temporary order in 2012. On Ash Wednesday, 2013, she took a support role instead of joining a demonstration. While standing in the public intersection, she photographed eight Catholics who participated in a nonviolent witness at the base gate. She did not participate in the witness because she had intended not to violate the OoP. She understood it to mean that she was forbidden to join the protest or be on base property. Following the arrests the activists learned that the base claims property out to the double yellow line in the middle of the road. Those who actually participated in the action were acquitted of their charges, while Grady Flores, arrested as she walked down the road away from the scene, was convicted of criminal contempt for violating the OoP.

Judge Gideon appeared to take nothing Grady Flores said into account, and scoffed that whether she intended to protest or not was "completely irrelevant" to her contempt conviction.

The pre-sentence investigation recommended a sentence of conditional discharge, but Judge Gideon rejected this, observing that Grady Flores had twice refused to pay fines for previous drone protest convictions, and that probation or conditional discharge would permit her to "thumb her nose at the law once again." He sentenced Grady Flores to the maximum of one year in prison. In addition, Grady Flores was fined \$1,000 plus a \$205 court surcharge and a \$50 fee to have her DNA collected.

As he imposed his sentence, the judge referred to his previous Hancock decision. He had stated then and insinuated now, "This has got to stop."

Her sister and fellow Catholic Worker Ellen Grady, speaking for organizing group Upstate Drone Action said, "We will continue challenging such orders for their blatant abuse of the First Amendment, for shutting down free speech and citizens' right to protest government misdeeds, and for their inappropriate application of New York State law."

In a recent ruling on one man's appeal, acting New York Supreme Court Judge Brunetti ruled the OoP was invalid because it's vague. The Assistant District Attorney is currently appealing that decision.

Supporters seemed briefly stunned as Grady Flores' sentence was announced, but when she was handcuffed and led from the courtroom, people stood and sang "Rejoice in the Lord Always." Upstate Drone Action raised \$5,000 to bail her out of jail on July 18.

Resistance Reflections

The Way Forward

by Joseph Olejak

It is therefore indisputable, that the Christians who lived nearest to the time of our Saviour believed, with undoubting confidence, that he had unequivocally forbidden war; and they openly avowed this belief; and that, in support of it, they were willing to sacrifice, and did sacrifice, their fortunes and their lives.

- Jonathan Dymond, 1796-1828

As many readers know from a previous submission, I was prosecuted in November of 2013 for war tax resistance dating back to the Clinton administration. A dark period in American history in which 500,000 Iraqi children died as a result of a U.S. embargo on food and medical supplies. The embargo was a political decision put in place to unseat a former U.S. ally, Saddam Hussein, and set the stage for U.S. occupation; a plan put in place by the Washington think tank, Project For The New American Century.

It turns out that the think tank and its adherents (Bush, Cheney and Rumsfeld) all turned out to be clueless about ethnic relationships in the region and as Harry Reid said when the call to war rose again after ISIS surged into power: "Being on the wrong side of Dick Cheney is being on the right side of history. To the architects of the Iraq War who are now so eager to offer their expert analysis, I say, Mr. President, thanks, but no thanks. *Unfortunately, we have already tried it your way and it was the biggest foreign policy blunder in the history of the country.*" (emphasis mine)

Inside of this historical context, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) charged me with one count of willful failure to file income tax forms and I was convicted for that charge and sentenced to 26 weekends of confinement in the Columbia County Jail in Hudson, N.Y. by District Federal Court Judge Thomas McAvoy.

Having served my time, I am now dealing with the impacts of probation and a criminal record. It is very early in the process of discerning a way forward but what follows is part of the message I am discerning to date.

Because probation is chronic government harassment into all areas of your life, I have not been able to continue to withhold tax payments; even though I believe at this time in our nation and how the laws are written it is the right thing to do. The probation department has required a strict accounting of every dollar I earn and spend. The IRS, in concert with the probation department, has made it clear they will find me in violation of the terms of my probation if I fail to make estimated tax payments. That means a jail term in a federal prison for three years. Because I have children I need to support I am going to pay what they are demanding even though it is under threat, duress and coercion.

When I attended the N.Y. Yearly Meeting, one of the areas of discernment that was rising up in me and among members of the Old Chatham Monthly Meeting was the need to speak our peace witness to a wider body of people, not merely to discuss it among ourselves. We Quakers, for the most part, are listening among the choir, to tweak the proverb a little. The OCMM is discerning ways we can reach out to other Quaker meetings and other churches to support the peace tax fund.

As a meeting we are exploring ways (letter campaigns and peace marches) to get the word out about the Peace Tax Fund and bring a level of awareness and action to the Capital District Community (Albany, Schenectady and Troy) that generates change.

One challenge I have run into talking with other churches is the question of the rightness of political action. I have heard Mennonites and Brethren who believe in nonviolence say: "We don't get involved in politics. The Bible says 'give unto Caesar that which is Caesar's.'"

The question that arises in my mind to a statement like that is: "Who is this Caesar you speak of?" In America the government is the people. There is no emperor! The people are Caesar, but we've forgotten that in a representative republic we not just have the option to engage politically, but have an obligation to. Why? Our obligation to engage arises from the political distortions created by Supreme Court decisions that have made corporations political players. Decisions like Trustees of Dartmouth College v. Woodward, Citizens United v. Federal Election Commis-

sion, and McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission. One man, one vote has been turned on its head. The new mantra of the corporate "person" is one dollar, one vote. In the world we live in today, as Howard Zinn wrote, "you can't be neutral on a moving train." High court decisions have created a legal landscape that favors a reduction in personal freedoms over corporate rights and one of those is our First Amendment freedom of religion.

For me, the message is simple: stay engaged – live a simpler life – earn less.

The challenge of living at or below the poverty level is that when you have children and are required to pay child support it places a person in a Catch-22 situation. You have to earn enough to pay the child support, but if you earn enough to pay the child support you are in a higher tax bracket. For divorced fathers – it is a legal nightmare.

The state of New York may solve the problem of income for me in the next few months because the NYS Education Department has made a determination that they want to revoke my license to practice chiropractic because of the Federal Tax Felony. A possibility I suspected might happen, but after nine months of no action on their part I was hoping that it was moot.

The disconcerting part of this is that one government agency after another goes after you, once you have a conviction. It becomes a downward spiral that I did not anticipate. I expected to take my punishment and move on. Not the case. The entire system demands your unquestioned participation in their practices or else their stated goal in the way the regulations are written is to destroy the individual who does not comply. I had a sense of these multiple layers of societal control but had no idea how craftily the laws are drafted to sideline and silence anyone who steps out of line. To think outside of the established system is to challenge $2 + 2 = 5$ and engage in crimethink.

The way forward for me seems to be a drop out from the money economy in the style of Helen and Scott Nearing (as told in their book, *The Good Life*) and live below the level at which taxes are triggered. In this way I can maintain my peace activism and freedom of thought in ways that productively move toward a peace tax, a better world and a way to support and be with my children.

Thanks

Thanks to Bill, Rosemary, David, Allen, Sam, Allison, Polly, Faith, Cindy, Charlotte, Richard and Catherine for helping to mail the last issue.

And thanks to all of you who so generously responded to our June fund appeal letter!



photo © Leonard Eiger

Lynne Greenwald

August 3, 1949 – August 5, 2014

Nuclear abolition and plowshares activist Lynne Greenwald was a loving mom and grandma and friend, a warm and caring woman of peace and compassion.

After her own release from prison in 2011 for the Disarm Now Plowshares action (pictured), Lynne directed a program supporting women in transition out of prison.

Presente!

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

GERMANY

Action camps are a popular summer activity in Germany for families and activists young and old alike, and this summer saw arrests related to camps focused on nuclear weapons, uranium transport and combat training.

Kiel

The nuclear power industry is dying a slow death. Still its uranium lifeblood courses around the globe from the mines to the mills, on through a handful of commercial enrichment plants and then fabrication into fuel rods for reactors.

Participants in this summer's anti-nuclear action camp in Kiel during the week of August 9-16 put the spotlight on this still-profitable global circulatory system by monitoring, inspecting and blockading shipments of yellowcake (uranium concentrates) en route to the French processing complex in Narbonne.

The mere presence of the camp was thought to be the reason a ship hauling registered containers of yellowcake from Uzbekistan did not enter the North-Baltic Sea Canal at Kiel, instead sailing for two extra days around Denmark towards Hamburg. The port at Hamburg is an international hub for nuclear-related transportation, with almost 200 known shipments into the port in 2013. A series of safety issues – including last year's huge, potentially catastrophic fire on a ship carrying yellowcake and explosives – led to a brief suspension of nuclear shipments earlier this year. Heightened inspections have since revealed deficiencies in more than half of the controlled transports.

When the Uzbek uranium did arrive in Hamburg on August 13, anti-nuclear port-watchers discovered that contrary to government assurances given to the Hamburg Senate in July, four containers with uranium from Kazakhstan that arrived with expired registration remained in view at the port, and had not, as promised, been shipped on to France right after re-inspection.

Activists then launched an inspection of the entire C. Steinweg container shipyard on August 15, counting 51 uranium transport containers where only the 30 Uzbek ones were expected. Some were from Namibia, as well. When shipyard owners realized the citizen inspection was underway, they called police, who responded with dogs and a helicopter. Several people were injured as they were apprehended, and trespass charges will proceed if Steinweg pursues a complaint.

On the morning of August 18, two days after the end of the camp, a train pulling 50 uranium containers departed the Hamburg-South station. It soon came to a stop where two people were locked together inside tubes placed under the rails. Another pair of activists locked themselves together under a rail behind it.

The shipment was stalled for over four hours while police cut through the locking devices and arrested the blockaders.

Prosecution of activists arrested during last summer's camp at the blockade of the nuclear fuel fabrication facility in Linggen has only recently begun.

For more information, visit antiatomcamp.nirgendwo.info.

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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, photos & clippings about local actions. Thanks!

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THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

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

ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

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

The Nuclear Resister is published about every 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

Resistance in the Heartland

Four summers ago, groundbreaking for construction of the United States' first new nuclear weapons factory in decades sparked a series of civil resistance actions. The arrests and jailings that resulted complimented public education campaigns and voter initiatives that aimed to halt the new Kansas City Plant. Nonviolent direct action has been a continuing component of this multi-faceted opposition to the new factory, with arrests marking three protests just this summer.

The Kansas City Plant was one stop in PeaceWorks-KC's Trifecta Resista series of actions, May 31–June 1. About 60 people took a chartered bus from Kansas City to Leavenworth on May 31, where they demonstrated outside the military prison calling for the pardon of army whistleblower Chelsea Manning. Then they rode a few minutes down the road and held signs in front of the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth in support of jailed nuclear resister Greg Boertje-Obed.

That afternoon, the bus rolled back into the city for a demonstration at the original, now abandoned Kansas City Plant, to demand comprehensive cleanup of about 900 known toxins. The contaminants have poisoned workers there and at other federal agencies at the same Bannister Federal Complex.

Old Kansas City Plant

Two people, Georgia Walker and Ethan Hughes, were arrested for trespass. Before passing through a framed door prop marked "Open the door to a nuclear-weapons-free world" and onto the old bomb plant property, they each shared a few words. Walker, fighting back tears, said, "I enter this door in the name of Lillian Spieler and Georgia Taylor, who died because of this site, working for the IRS. They died at 61 and 62. They were my aunts." Her tears signified the suffering of the 154 families whose members are named by investigative reporters as having died from contaminants at the complex.

Ethan Hughes challenged the group to take the love sweeping through their gathering and focus beyond the nuclear weapons. "We need to stand up to empire and transform it with love," he said.

Walker was bailed out late that night, and Hughes was released on time served Monday afternoon, June 2, with court fees waived. Walker pleaded not guilty on July 10, and will face trial on September 26.

Whiteman Air Force Base

The Trifecta Resista concluded Sunday at Whiteman Air Force Base, near Knob Noster, Missouri, where killer drones half a world away are piloted by remote control. B-2 nuclear bombers are also based there. Georgia Walker and Kathy Kelly, co-coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence, crossed the line and presented large loaves of bread to the Air Force officers. They were arrested for trespass.

When Kelly asked the officers to give their commander an indictment against all U.S. drone warfare,

the officers refused, placing the indictment in her property bag to be returned to her. Both women were processed and released on site, and await a court date.

When asked earlier about the logic of crossing the line at Whiteman Air Force Base, with a likely prison sentence of four-to-six months, Kathy replied, "It's impossible to find actions commensurate with the crimes being committed in wars and preparation for wars. When trillions of dollars and needed ingenuity and scientific skills are controlled by militaries, societies can't meet human needs. Commensurate actions elude us. But we can each do what we can. I hope our action at Whiteman will heighten awareness of how urgently our voices are needed."

New Kansas City Plant

On the morning of July 4, Fr. Carl Kabat returned for the fourth consecutive summer to declare, as he told friends from jail, "This damned plant has got to be closed somehow, some way." In past years, the 80-year-old Catholic priest has damaged construction equipment on the site and last year was joined by his Oblate Provincial and others in crossing the line.

This year his self-described "Interdependence Day" action was to "slosh" red paint, signifying blood, onto the tall National Security Campus / National Nuclear Security Administration–Kansas City Plant sign at the entrance. He was arrested and held for about 20 hours before being released with a September 3 court date.

Within a few hours, the "blood"-stained sign had been wrapped in tarps to obscure Kabat's revealing addition to the benign-sounding marquee of a factory that will help develop and fabricate the unique non-nuclear components for a new generation of U.S. nuclear weapons: gadgets intended to threaten humanity through the end of the century.

The official dedication of the plant was on August 22. While politicians and war industrialists assembled to bless the massive, tastefully landscaped industrial facility, PeaceWorks-KC and Physicians for Social Responsibility-KC sponsored a mock "Dead-ication" funeral procession. Fifty-five people joined in, planting sunflower seeds and carrying a faux coffin and protest signs down the long sidewalk alongside manicured lawns and past a new pond under the watchful eye of security guards for Honeywell, the prime contractor.

Jim Hannah, Henry Stoeber and Mark Bartholomew stepped across the property line at the entry to the facility's long driveway. When they refused to retreat, they were arrested for trespassing. Kansas City police took the men to the police station. Hannah and Stoeber were released on bond a few hours later, while Bartholomew was jailed for about 20 hours before being released. Court dates are pending.

For more information, visit peaceworkskc.org.

CATHOLIC WORKERS PICK JAIL OVER FINE

Five midwest Catholic Workers chose to spend two days in the Polk County, Iowa jail rather than pay a \$100 fine for trespassing last March. They were arrested with two others at a St. Patrick's Day blockade of the Des Moines Air National Guard base, seeking to banish the drones from the Guard's new remote piloting base, like St. Patrick banished the snakes from Ireland.

During a two-day trial, each of the seven defendants, some who had lived in or recently travelled to Iraq and Afghanistan, was able to testify about the real impact of drone warfare at home and abroad, and to challenge the legality and morality of killing unnamable enemies with impunity at such a distance.

The impact of their testimony was swept away from the jury's consideration of guilt or innocence by the judge's narrow instructions, and the six-person panel returned in less than an hour with a guilty verdict.

Ed Bloomer, Julie Brown, Steve Clemens, Ruth Cole and Michele Naar-Obed went to jail, while Rev. Chet Guinn and Elliott Adams chose to pay the \$100 fine and court costs.

Ruth Cole's reflection on her first 48 hours behind bars is *The Inside Line* found on page 5 of this issue.

At his blog, Steve Clemens posted two reports about going to jail (they can be read in full at www.mennonista.blogspot.com). He says, "I write about my jail experience to demystify it, hoping to embolden others to consider civil disobedience and jail witness as another tool in their repertoire of working for peace and justice."

His first jail post describes spending:

...20 hours on the boundary between discomfort and pain. I thought of Martin Luther King writing about redemptive suffering and offered my time in the noisy, cold, boring void of the Polk County Jail on behalf of my despondent and discouraged friends in Afghanistan...

His second post concludes:

I was asked to sign a form which acknowledged I received my invoice for room and board charges - \$195! I told them there was no way I was going to pay such an absurd bill and I'd refuse to sign it. They said, "We'll bill you anyway." So, go figure - go to jail for two days because you won't pay a \$100 fine for reasons of conscience only to be issued a bill for \$95 more than that amount to undergo such indignities. What do you expect from an empire in the throes of decline and desperation?

For more information, visit dmcatholicworker.org.

Inside & Out

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



ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

Shakir Hamoodi 21901-045
USP Leavenworth, POB 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048.

(three years - out 4/17/15)
(Plea agreement to one count of violating 1991-2003 U.S. sanctions by providing personal charity for family and friends living in Iraq)

Rafil Dhafir 11921-052
Unit HB, Federal Medical Center Devens, POB 879, Ayer, MA 01432.
(22 years - out 4/26/22)
(Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05)

Norman Edgar Lowry Jr. KN 9758
SCI Dallas, 1000 Follies Rd., Dallas, PA 18612.
(one to seven years - in 8/1/11)
(Repeated trespass at military recruiting office, 8/1/11)

Chelsea E. Manning 89289
1300 North Warehouse Road,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2304.
(35 years - in 5/10, out 2/3/20)
(Whistleblower convicted on espionage and other charges for release of military video and documents showing evidence of U.S. war crimes. To ensure delivery, any card or envelope must be addressed exactly as noted)

Brian Jacob Church M44717
P.O. Box 112, Joliet, IL 60434.
(5 years - out 11/6/14)
Jared Chase M44710
c/o the Nuclear Resister, POB 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733.
(8 years - out 5/6/16)
Brent Betterly M44724
4017 E. 2603 Road, Sheridan, IL 60551.
(6 years - out 5/6/15)
(NATO 3, convicted of possession of incendiary devices with intent to commit arson during protests at NATO summit in Chicago, May, 2012)

**PREVIOUSLY LISTED,
RECENTLY RELEASED: Oh Cheol-Geun**

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

GREAT BRITAIN

In September, Scotland will vote on the question of independence from Great Britain, and the fate of the British Trident nuclear weapons system and its proposed replacement could be affected if Scotland secedes. The United Kingdom's four Vanguard-class subs that launch the Trident nuclear missile were commissioned in the 1980s and 90s. Their homeport is at Faslane and they are loaded for doomsday at Coulport, two British navy bases tucked into the lochs north of Glasgow.

Blockades this summer from Scotland in the north to the south coast of England highlighted the growing debate over the future of the Queen's nukes.

AWE Burghfield

The 32nd anniversary celebration of the first peace camp outside the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Burghfield began on June 9 with the biggest protest there in years. Three teams from across the country coordinated their arrival, and within minutes they had blocked the three roads into the site with a trailer and autos specially outfitted with lock-down devices. The blockade was organized by Trident Ploughshares as part of the ongoing ActionAWE grassroots campaign dedicated to halting nuclear weapons production at Burghfield and its companion factory nearby at Aldermaston. (In May, a dozen people took part in a blockade of the construction gate at Aldermaston, but officials had diverted traffic to other gates for several hours until the blockaders departed.)

Activists locked themselves to the vehicles blocking each gate and to each other, preventing traffic entering the site for five hours. Although there have been protests at the site in the past, this is the first time that an unannounced protest has blocked access via all three roads.

Commuting workers backed up all around, and some were diverted to a parking lot and began walking through the gates. Supporters gave out leaflets explaining why they were stopping work but how the workers' skills were needed to disarm the nuclear warheads and to verify nuclear disarmament in the long-term.

Late in the morning, police moved to forcibly clear one of the gates. After a couple hours of effort, Peter Chan and Jane Picksley were cut free from their lock-down device, arrested and taken into custody at around 11:00 a.m. Deliveries to the site had already been cancelled for the entire day, and after brief negotiations demonstrators cleared the remaining gates and departed with all of their equipment and modified cars. Picksley accepted a police caution, while Chan pleaded not guilty and awaits trial.

en route to Coulport

Five weeks later, a convoy departed Burghfield for Coulport. More than 20 military vehicles, including four special lorries designed to carry nuclear warheads, were tracked by Nukewatch (UK) and videotaped on the motorway after they left Thursday morning, July 10. John Ainslie of the Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament picked up the public surveillance through Glasgow at midnight, declaring, "This is an insult to the people of Glasgow and the rest of Scotland. Only 10 weeks before we vote on whether to be independent, the U.K. government have sent this massive convoy of Weapons of Mass Destruction through the centre of Scotland's largest city. The convoy was probably carrying six Trident bombs, each one seven times more powerful than the bomb which destroyed Hiroshima in 1945. This should be taken as a clear reminder of why people need to vote Yes – to rid Scotland of these horrific nuclear weapons." The U.K. government is currently upgrading Trident's bombs to add capability against hardened targets.

The nuclear convoy found itself in difficulty on the home stretch of its journey on narrow two-lane roads over the hills to Coulport. In the wee hours of Friday, residents of the nearby Faslane Peace Camp blocked the convoy and delayed its passage for an hour using superglue and lock-on clips. Following the action, four were taken into custody and held over the weekend, with three later being released without prosecution. Jamie Watson was bailed to appear in court in October, charged with breach of the peace and resisting arrest.

The Faslane Peace Camp has been a presence near the gate of the Trident base for over 30 years. The Camp's blog said of the blockade, "It's a very clear example of how the practical elements of sustaining Trident represent a major public safety threat, quite aside from the moral and legal considerations of maintaining nuclear weapons. The secrecy and lack of accountability accorded to the Ministry of Defence make it clear that its operations are considered untouchable. It's for this reason that direct action and awareness-raising are so important, to present a challenge to the Ministry's autocracy and mobilise wider resistance to it."



photo by White Feather

On Armed Forces Day, an anti-war banner was unfurled across the huge Finnieston Crane overlooking Glasgow, Scotland.

Glasgow

Flying above the blockades on the ground was a huge banner unfurled on June 28 across the top of the landmark Finnieston Crane in downtown Glasgow. It was Armed Forces Day, and Glasgow was in the midst of preparations for hosting events commemorating the start of the First World War. Four women of the White Feather Collective scaled the historic cargo loader that morning to display in giant letters their succinct rejection of warfare and capital: "RESIST MILITARISM".

Speaking to STV from the top of the crane, protester Frida Grey said:

When children in Scotland go to see tanks and bombs today in Stirling that's part of the normalisation of military culture. We've been engaging with police all morning and explained we want to stay here for Armed Forces Day. This is a peaceful protest about getting a message out.

I would encourage people to think more carefully about celebrating military culture. There is sacrifice and commitment from people in the Forces, but we have to work towards a demilitarised future.

The group name reclaims the image of the white feather, once used as a symbol of cowardice, to celebrate those who bravely refuse to participate in war.

The women remained with the banner on full display for 12 hours, only then descending voluntarily with a police escort. They were jailed over the weekend for breach of the peace and vandalism. Ordered not to go near the crane again, they were freed until trial in November.

For more information, visit resistmilitarism.com.

Devonport

Early on the morning of July 25, a group of local people from Plymouth, Devon, Cornwall, Somerset and beyond blocked the main entrance into Devonport Dockyard in Plymouth, seeking to stop the planned refitting of the Vanguard-class nuclear-powered submarines. Using their own bodies and banners, and also a car to block the entrance into the base, demonstrators condemned the weapons.

Nikki Clarke, mother of two from Bridgwater said, "I'm here today because I believe the work that goes on here ... is immoral and dangerous. Trident could never be used legally as its use would constitute a war-crime. The government is trying to spend in excess of £100 billion of taxpayer money renewing a global terror weapon which can never be used. Why should we live with austerity just so that our government can throw its weight around the world? The money earmarked for Trident would be better spent on public services such as education and healthcare, all of which are suffering due to the Condem coalition spending cuts."

Clarke and Theo Simon were both arrested after a few hours, when police removed them from the lockdown apparatus in the car. They are charged with aggravated trespass and have a pre-trial hearing set for October 16.

For more information, visit actionawe.org, faslanepeacecamp.wordpress.com, and tridentploughshares.org.

Menwith Hill

In June, Lindis Percy of the Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases delivered invitations to the group's annual July 4 Independence FROM America Day protest to U.S. and British officials at the North

Yorkshire satellite communication and spy base. As she departed the base police station, Percy paused in full view to write the words "UNSAFE LAW" in broad marker strokes on a sign declaring the authority of Military Land byelaws. The special byelaws impose invalid restrictions on common lands use and Percy has repeated the act many times, trying to bring that issue to court. This time, she was accosted by North Yorkshire police, uncharacteristically bearing firearms. She was accused of defacing the sign and arrested. Percy asked the officers to disarm before detaining her, and when they refused, she adamantly refused to get into the patrol car for the trip to the station. The arresting officer eventually disarmed and drove her away. After about an hour in custody, Percy was released without charge, told only that the case would be reported for possible prosecution.

For more information, visit caab.org.uk.

Germany, continued from page 2

Büchel

The modernization of U.S. nuclear weapons also involves upgrading bases and aircraft that would deliver the weapons under NATO nuclear security agreements, including at the Büchel air force base in Germany. At this year's protest and action camp, August 2-11, the Youth Network for Political Action initiated the first blockade of three base gates on the morning of August 5, intending to remain at least 24 hours until the hour of the Hiroshima bombing.

Police did not interfere until early in the morning on Hiroshima Day, and then to clear just the Lutzerather gate. A dozen blockaders were cleared away, and most only had their IDs checked at the site. Two who did not carry ID were taken to the station, as was the last man cleared from the blockade. He had locked his neck to the iron bars of the gate and police carried him along with the opening gate out of the way before cutting the gate to free him. All three were charged with coercion, and others received notices from the police in the mail.

Campers lifted the blockade of the other two gates mid-day. Alleged internet posts about terrorists intending to strike Büchel began to circulate that afternoon. Police and army activity increased through Thursday until the threat was revealed as a hoax.

After a day of collecting signatures on a petition to send the Büchel nukes back to the U.S., campers returned to block the gates again early Friday morning. Police quickly carried enough people away to clear one lane, and no one was taken into custody or charged. The blockade was soon lifted. Police did not interfere with the Nagasaki Day memorial in the main gate nor a concert given there that concluded the camp on Sunday.

For more information, visit buechel-atomwaffenfrei.de.

Magdeburg

Tents were pitched for the War Starts Here action base camp on August 17, just outside the boundaries of the sprawling European Battle Simulation Center at Altmark, Germany. Despite a large military presence patrolling the 175-square mile site, over the next week groups of campers entered on three different days.

On August 19, 50 people walked over a mile to establish the first camp in the area of the former village of Päßforde, noting the Latin root for peace in the name as indicative of their goal. Police soon caught up and removed the campers from the range.

The next day, 30 people pitched tents on the main tank *continued on page 5*

continued from page 4

road through the area. Police were marching them back down the road when part of the group suffered temporary exhaustion, and in their repose again blocked the road!

Three days later, 60 people embarked on a colorful parade under the eyes of police, and established their peace village on a beautiful heath inside the war games area. It took police working in the rain until the next day to roust them all from the grounds, record their IDs, and send them off.

For more information, visit gewaltfreie-aktion-guez-abschaffen.de.

JEJU, SOUTH KOREA

At least four more people have been in and out of jail this summer on Jeju, the Peace Island of South Korea, rather than pay fines associated with their protests of the navy base under construction at the seaside village of Gangjeong. This summer the Korean Supreme Court dismissed dozens more appeals from among the hundreds of people who have been arrested and prosecuted on various charges in the seven-year nonviolent struggle to stop the base. Suspended jail sentences and fines are being enforced, and some refuse to pay.

Mr. Oh Cheol-Geun, jailed on May 26, was released on June 23 after four weeks in jail.

On July 3, two local peacekeepers convicted of obstructing business at a 2012 protest in front of the base project committee's office, Lee Jong-Hwa and Park Seung-Ho, refused their fines and surrendered to be jailed. In a statement the two men wrote:

[F]or the peace of the North East Asia and Earth that is imminently being threatened, we will gather more of our power into peace movement in solidarity with the peace activists around the world facing the United States' world domination strategy. We go to the Jeju Prison today. They shall never stop our will to oppose the Jeju naval base project that pushes the future of Jeju not in just, but mean ways. We will resolutely resist till the day when the Jeju naval base construction is stopped.

Park was released on August 27, and Lee was released on August 29.

Two others went to jail for five and fourteen days in August in lieu of part or all of their fines.

An expanded construction gate to the base opened on June 16. The daily Catholic Mass moved to the new gate where it was immediately interrupted by the loud rumbling of heavy trucks passing by, violating an agreement with police to halt traffic while Mass is in progress. Fr. Kim Sung-Hwan was threatened with arrest when he remained in the roadway in protest, following the Mass. He retreated, and when ten more priests joined him for that day's afternoon Mass, police respected the agreement.

In July, the moderate typhoon Neoguri displaced and damaged three of the massive concrete caissons built to anchor the navy base's breakwater. Seven caissons were destroyed in a 2012 typhoon. The villagers have a saying, "The Gangjeong Sea will settle what we cannot do with our struggle."

During the summer, many visitors from throughout Korea and around the world traveled to Jeju Island to support resistance to the naval base. In Gangjeong, they joined in the daily 100 bows, Catholic Mass, human chain and village dances that sustain the movement.

Three hundred people from at least seven countries took part in the third annual Gangjeong Grand March for Peace and Life, a 42-mile walk across the island, concluding in Gangjeong on August 2.

The next day, a three-day Peace for the Sea International Peace Camp began, focused on the East China Sea and the people living around it on Jeju, Okinawa and Taiwan. Representatives from each island shared stories of local resistance to militarism. They joined kayak actions in the waters near the base construction area and issued a call for a Demilitarized Peace Area without military bases.

Pope Francis visited Korea in August and met briefly with priests engaged in the nonviolent struggle for peace on Jeju. The presence of representatives from several social justice struggles in Korea at the Pope's public mass was upstaged by the attendance of South Korean President Park. The day the Pope departed Korea, the U.S. joined South Korean military forces for their largest annual joint war games.

For more information, visit savejejunow.org.

IRELAND

Irish peace activist Margaretta D'Arcy returned to jail for two weeks this summer, as did her co-defendant Niall Farrell. Both were convicted at trial on June 24 for again "interfering with the proper use of an airport" on September 1, 2013, when the U.S. bombing of Syria appeared imminent. Both refused the option of avoiding jail by promising to remain lawful and not return to the unauthorized areas of Shannon International Airport, where they have repeatedly taken action in defense of Irish neutrality to stop U.S. military use of the airport.

D'Arcy defended herself, calling expert witnesses who backed her and Farrell's claim that Shannon's use as a "virtual forward operating base" for the U.S. military was anything but proper under Irish or international law.

The witnesses placed the defendants' nonviolent direct actions on the runway into the context of a broader campaign to expose, disrupt and bring to an end the use of the airport as a refueling stop for U.S. military and rendition flights in violation of Irish sovereignty.

In her summation, D'Arcy referred to her membership in Women in Media and Entertainment of Ireland, and their determination to act on the United Nation's Article 1325 which states that women must be involved in solving and all solutions to conflict. She said that she was acting according to UN1325 to end conflict and that she didn't care what the judge wanted to do, that he could jail her if he wanted for doing her duty as a woman and a citizen. D'Arcy told the judge the two should instead be given medals for their service to the Irish state.

"I've been to prison before," she told reporters. "Once in India, twice in Holloway, twice in Armagh and twice in the Republic! ... Pacifists never give up! The older one gets, the freer one is to be radical. Our age group are not frightened to go to court, we don't have to worry about a job or a reputation, we've no reputation left! We are independent people! It's wonderful. Put me in jail? So what!"

D'Arcy, now 80, fasted for some days of her jail sentence "[i]n a small gesture of solidarity with all those who have lost their lives, their communities and homes destroyed," particularly those then under Israeli bombardment in Gaza. She was released after serving nine days.

Niall Farrell turned himself on August 1 in Galway, at the monument to Liam Mellows, a leader in Galway of the 1916 Easter Uprising. He said, "The peace actions of Margaretta and myself are a humble attempt to stand up for the anti-imperialist principles of those who rose in Easter 1916 to achieve an independent Irish Republic with an anti-imperialist foreign policy."

Farrell refused to wear prison garb, "because I would not allow the state to try and criminalise the peace movement. We are not criminals," he writes. "The criminals are those who allow mass murderers and weaponry to travel through Shannon airport and Irish airspace freely." He was issued a poncho-type blanket and held in solitary for eight days, then granted remission and released.

For 13 years, Irish human rights campaigners, patriots and peace activists have asked the police to inspect U.S. military flights through Shannon for the facts of their cargo. Instead, police have created fictions to harass some activists in the courts.

A judge agreed after hearing the sketchy and implausible testimony of police against two Shannonwatch activists on May 27, and granted a defense motion to dismiss charges of loitering. Dr. Edward Horgan and Tim Hourigan were arrested in October after taking their usual photos of suspicious aircraft prior to the group's monthly vigil. At the time they were accused of trespassing in a restricted area, but released without charges. Both were served a loitering summons five months later. It was the fourth time Horgan has been prosecuted on bogus charges for attending protests or collecting information about U.S. military shipments through Shannon Airport, and the fourth time he's been vindicated.

On July 22, two Independent members of the Irish legislature, Clare Daly and Mike Wallace, tried on their own to inspect two U.S. military aircraft at the airport suspected of delivering arms to Israel for the continuing assault on Gaza. The two used a ladder to breach a perimeter fence and were apprehended when they got close to the Hercules C-130 and a modified Boeing 737 aircraft.

Clare Daly said, "The idea that we can accept U.S. assurances that there are no weapons on board these military aircraft is ridiculous. We know that many of them are effectively weapons systems. A U.S. Hercules C-130 was photographed at Shannon with a 30mm cannon out the side last September. These planes are designed for war, not peace."

The pair were taken to Shannon police station and released later that day, with their cases referred to the prosecutor.

For more information, visit shannonwatch.org and see Future Actions, page 7.

WRITINGS FROM JAIL

~ from Polk County

Jail for the First Time

by Ruth Cole

I didn't enter into our trial thinking about going to jail. My optimistic heart had other results in mind for how our days in court would conclude. When charged with a \$100 fine and asked if I would pay it, I timidly told the judge that I could not.

I am finding, even today, there is always more I could have said in those days in court. I wanted to tell Judge Price I could not pay for a system that continues to do injustice. That contrary to his jury instructions, his courtroom is also mine, and it is a place for my voice to be heard too, for my appeal to the government to stand, and for justice to be determined. While I acknowledge and respect our judge and the job he has to do, I also cannot excuse him or anyone else for the responsibility we all carry when our brothers and sisters are hurting and when our country is imposing that harm. Because I knew neither my heart nor my head could agree to pay the fee, I was sentenced along with four others to 48 hours in jail. I was scared. I would continue to dip in and out of the darkness of my fear several times within the next 48 hours to come.

I have many thoughts and reflections from this experience in jail.

Many of them are still taking shape in my head. Mostly I am deeply and painfully sad. I am sad to know how we treat each other and how hopelessly far a world of justice and kinship feel.

Here are a few words I wrote while in the Polk County Jail:

"Jail is so incredible. It is scary. It is flooded with injustice. It is insanity, and it is humanity at our finest and worst. I am glad I did it. But the first ten hours I wasn't so sure. The holding cell, the intoxicated cell

THE INSIDE LINE



mate, the cold, metal, stall-less toilet, the cold concrete. The fact that I was only a fifth of the way done. Oh, and the florescent lights, the endless fluorescent lights. These women are resilient.

"Privilege has never felt so clear and so infuriatingly complex. I choose to be here, to dip my toes into this, just long enough to know how the water feels. And I am amongst women who have been swept away by these mighty systematic waves. They are minute by minute treading a sea of injustice.

"I am humbled and deeply grateful for those who shared their stories with me. For those who have supported me and my choices.

"And I pray that I may honor all that has been offered to me by continuing to find avenues to raise a voice, for the waves to settle and for all of us to weather this storm."

Folks have asked me how jail was. They have said, "48 hours, that isn't bad." Jail is not good, in my experience, it never is. My 48 hours were very difficult and at the same time, the difference between 48 hours and returning to a community of support and stability is vastly different than 160 days and having lost all sense of stability to return to. I only gained perspective, knowledge, friends, and a greater sense of connectivity. I lost nothing. Jail is not a place I wish to return. Yet I cannot foresee how I could resist solidarity with intelligent, kind and beautiful mothers and grandmothers who were my community for 48 short hours.

[Ruth Cole was jailed for two days for a St. Patrick's Day protest at the site of the future Iowa Air National Guard drone command center in Des Moines.]

Reprinted from *via pacis*, newsletter of the Des Moines Catholic Worker, July, 2014

PRISONER UPDATES

Chelsea Manning

Approaching the anniversary of her initial request for appropriate gender-related health care from her military captors, and having exhausted all administrative recourse, Chelsea Manning's attorney David Coombs and the American Civil Liberties Union have formally demanded that the military "immediately initiate treatment for Chelsea consistent with the recommendations of her treating doctors and an outside expert who evaluated her" and diagnosed her gender dysphoria.

"If the military fails to adequately respond to the demand," Coombs wrote on his blog August 22, "we are prepared to pursue litigation to vindicate her constitutional rights."

Military policy does not allow transgendered people to serve, and the Wikileaks whistleblower (formerly known as Bradley Manning) will not be discharged until her prison sentence is served. The Pentagon sought to shunt their responsibility for prisoner care by moving Manning into the federal prison system where a treatment policy is in place, but the Bureau of Prisons rejected that overture in July. In response, the military reluctantly agreed to provide a "rudimentary level" of gender-related health care at Fort Leavenworth military prison, but nothing has changed.

In her own public statement released on August 22, Manning wrote that:

Prisons – and especially military prisons – reinforce and impose strong gender norms – making gender the most fundamental aspect of institutional life. The U.S. Disciplinary Barracks restricts my ability to express myself based on my gender identity.

For example, in my daily life I am reminded of this when I look at the name on my badge, the first initial sewed onto my clothing, the hair and grooming standards that I adhere to, and the titles and courtesies used by the staff. Ultimately, I just want

to be able to live my life as the person that I am, and to be able to feel comfortable in my own skin.

I also want to make it clear that my request is about how I am confined, not where. I have never requested for any transfer to a civilian or female facility. Prison is prison regardless of whether you are military or civilian, and regardless of what gender you are.

Manning's 35-year sentence for disclosing evidence of possible war crimes and U.S. diplomatic duplicity around the world is also on appeal.

For more information, visit chelseamanning.org. Posters, t-shirts and stickers with the graphic shown below are available at the site's store link.



Letters of support should be sent to Chelsea E. Manning 89289, 1300 North Warehouse Road, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-2304.



NATO 3

Jared Chase, one of the NATO 3 activists serving time for helping undercover cops make molotov cocktails for protests at the May, 2012 NATO summit in Chicago, returns to court in Chicago on September 5 for a hearing on his outstanding charge of aggravated battery on a police officer. Chase is diagnosed with Huntington's Disease, a hereditary degenerative neurological disorder that was not properly managed while Chase was in the Cook County Jail awaiting trial. Defense experts say this contributed to his misconduct and the additional criminal charge at that time. Chase has been held in segregation since transfer into the state prison system in May, and is working on his appeal while awaiting assignment of an appellate public defender. He wrote to *the Nuclear Resister* to thank all who have supported him by writing since his arrest and through trial and sentencing earlier this year. Chase is serving an eight year sentence.

In July, the People's Law Office released a letter from their client and NATO 3 defendant Brian Jacob Church, addressed, "To my dearest friends and comrades," and stating in part:

I'm pretty sure I can say for all three of us that had it not been for the international showing of solidarity for our struggle, we would have been in a different, and much worse, situation. For me, this support has helped me both physically and mentally. You all have been most inspiring and uplifting,

Dr. Rafil Dhafir

Ten days before the start of the requisite Muslim religious observance of Ramadan, Rafil Dhafir was removed from general population to the Special Housing Unit (SHU, or isolation cells) at the Federal Medical Center/Devens in Massachusetts. After supporters called and wrote to question why the punitive action was taken, the warden claimed in multiple reply letters that Dhafir was informed of the reason in the detention order issued that day. But Dhafir and his attorney, who was shown the document when she visited in August, said it gave no reason.

In fact, it was not until Dhafir filed a grievance on the question that he learned why he was being punished. Five weeks after being removed from general population, he received in reply an "Inmate Resolution" form that claimed that he was being investigated for "attempting to encourage a group demonstration," but no further information or specifics were noted. Prison procedure is to remove the accused from general population for up to 90 days while an investigation is carried out.

In addition to being separated from his religious community in the prison unit during the month of Ramadan, Dhafir lost access to many of the documents about his prosecution recently released under Freedom

of Information Act requests. He was reviewing these documents for his final legal appeal, a motion to correct his sentence that must be filed by November.

Among many who wrote to the warden, including Massachusetts Senator Barbara Warren, *the Nuclear Resister* editors wrote seeking clarity about when Dhafir was informed of the reason for being detained, and why. In a follow-up phone call, we were told the warden would reply "soon" by mail. Eight days later, August 29, we called again and were promised the correspondence log would be reviewed and we would get a call back to confirm that the letter had been sent.

For more information, visit freethenato3.wordpress.com.



Letters of support should be sent to Brian Jacob Church M44717, P.O. Box 112, Joliet, IL 60434; Jared Chase M44710, c/o the Nuclear Resister, POB 43338, Tucson, AZ 85733; and Brent Betterly M44724, 4017 E. 2603 Road, Sheridan, IL 60551.

The next morning Dhafir emailed us and others to express gratitude for the support, "I am finally out of the SHU yesterday... I was not charged with anything, just let go!!!!"

For more information, visit dhafirtrial.net.

Letters of support should be sent to Rafil Dhafir 11921-052, Unit HB, Federal Medical Center Devens, POB 879, Ayer, MA 01432.



Letters of support should be sent to Gregory Boertje-Obed 08052-016, USP Leavenworth, P.O. Box 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048; Megan Rice 88101-020, MDC Brooklyn, Metropolitan Detention Center, P.O. Box 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232; and Michael Walli 92108-020, FCI McKean, Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 8000, Bradford, PA 16701.

Transform Now Plowshares

An appeal has been filed in the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in Cincinnati, Ohio, challenging convictions under the Sabotage Act of imprisoned nuclear disarmament activists Greg Boertje-Obed, Sr. Megan Rice and Michael Walli.

Calling themselves the Transform Now Plowshares, the three caused minor property damage at the Y-12 nuclear weapons facility in Oak Ridge, Tennessee two years ago when they cut through fences to arrive at the base of a modern concrete fortress holding vast quantities of highly enriched uranium for nuclear weapons. At their trial in May, 2013, prosecutors successfully argued to the jury that this damage, plus a bit of concrete chipped from the foundation and the biblical graffiti they left on the building's walls was an effort "to injure, interfere with, or obstruct the national defense," as defined in the Sabotage Act.

Trial testimony revealed that the defendants lacked such intent. Even the judge seemed troubled by use of the sabotage charge against peaceful dissidents, but took no action to stop it. The defendants' true intention, shared by a long tradition of nonviolent direct actions, was to graphically expose the criminality of the U.S. nuclear arsenal and the threat nuclear weapons pose to human survival.

Their appeal argues that the government's "distorted and unmoored interpretation of the Sabotage Act" at trial began when "the Government substituted the words 'Y-12' for 'the national defense.'" In other words, jurors were led to believe that as long as the Defendants intended to injure, interfere with, or obstruct Y-12 (i.e., national defense premises or property) rather than 'the national defense,' they could be convicted."

Prosecutors continued to prejudice the jury by inappropriately presenting testimony of prior offenses and invoking a comparison of the nonviolent demonstrators to 9/11 terrorists.

"Under the Government's interpretation," the appeal continues, "large swaths of individuals could be convicted [of sabotage] simply for knowingly defacing government property. While that may amount to a federal offense, it does not constitute intent to injure or interfere with the national defense and certainly does not constitute sabotage." The appeals team has asked to present oral arguments, and awaits a response from the court.

In a letter to supporters on the second anniversary of their action, Megan Rice, writing on behalf of the three, restated their real intention:

Our action at the Y-12 site in Oak Ridge exposed the storage of weapons-making materials deliberately hidden from the general public. The production, refurbishment, threat, or use of these weapons of mass destruction violate the fundamental rules and principles by which we all try to live amicably as human beings. The United States Constitution and the Laws of War are intended to ensure the survival of humanity with dignity. However, it is abundantly clear that harmony and cooperation among nations can never be achieved with nuclear weapons...

Our "crime" was to draw attention to the criminality of the 70-year-old nuclear industry itself and to the unconscionable fact that the United States spends more on nuclear weapons than on education, health, transportation, and disaster relief combined.

We three Transform Now Plowshares consider it our duty, right, and privilege to heighten tension in the ongoing debate of Disarmament vs. Deterrence because history has repeatedly taught us that the policy of deterrence doesn't lead to security, but rather to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. During our trial, the U.S. prosecutors and the U.S. courts accused the wrong people when they claimed that we violated the law, because what we did was to make America's citizens aware of egregious preparations for mass murder.

We took action because we were acutely aware that our government has failed to keep its long-standing promise to pursue nuclear disarmament.

Sr. Rice's complete letter and the appeal brief can be read at transformnowplowshares.wordpress.com.



Letters of support should be sent to Gregory Boertje-Obed 08052-016, USP Leavenworth, P.O. Box 1000, Leavenworth, KS 66048; Megan Rice 88101-020, MDC Brooklyn, Metropolitan Detention Center, P.O. Box 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232; and Michael Walli 92108-020, FCI McKean, Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 8000, Bradford, PA 16701.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki, cont.

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day commemoration on the theme "MUSIC NOT M.A.D.NESS" (referring to the acronym of the Cold War nuclear doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction).

Each of the eight Ohio-class submarines at Bangor carry as many as 24 Trident II (D-5) missiles, each capable of carrying up to eight independently targetable warheads. Each nuclear warhead has an explosive yield up to 32 times the yield of the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima.

The commemoration began the day before with a welcome for the two-week-long Pacific Northwest Interfaith Peace Walk, concluding at Ground Zero. That evening Bainbridge Island band Chele's Kitchen gave a concert at the Center. Jim Page and John Palmes enlivened the Saturday vigil at the nearby base gate with the universal language of music.

Following Page's *deja vu* encore of his 1980's classic, *Hiroshima Nagasaki Russian Roulette*, five people carried the peace scarf across the three lane road to block it. Buddhist monk Gilberto Perez also entered the roadway, drumming and chanting. Washington State Patrol troopers removed all six protesters and the scarf from the roadway. In addition to Perez, those cited at the scene for being on the roadway illegally include David Brice, Mack Johnson, Doug Milholland, Elizabeth Murray and Rick Turner.

For more information, visit gzcenter.org.

BANGOR UPDATE

Five of eight people cited as pedestrians in the roadway at the Mother's Day protest at Bangor spoke of their motives in Kitsap District Court on July 25 and had their fines mitigated to the minimum \$25. The others paid their original fines due to obligations precluding their appearance in court that day. Four of the eight who re-entered the road after being issued the citation and were also cited for obstruction have not yet been summoned to court on the charge.

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE

On August 9, about 30 Catholic Workers and friends from the sister communities in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Los Angeles, Redwood City and Guadalupe, California, vigiled at the main gate of Vandenberg Air Force Base, along Highway 1 on California's central coast. Commemorating the 69th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, five were arrested after crossing the boundary line as a witness against "diabolical nuclear weapons and U.S. imperial war-making." Karan Benton, Mike Wisniewski, Jeff Dietrich, Mark Kelso and Fr. Steve Kelly SJ were cited for trespassing and released an hour and a half later in nearby Vandenberg Village. A date in federal court is pending.

For more information, visit vandenbergwitness.org

DRONES, CONT.

continued from page 1

MORE ARRESTS and JAIL

Five days later, July 23, eight members of the Atlantic Life Community acted in solidarity with Upstate Drone Action to deliver a People's War Crimes Indictment to the Hancock chain of command. They affixed it to the fence after base personnel refused to take it. Also delivered was an Order of Protection on behalf of the children of the world who are subject to U.S. drone surveillance and attack.

Their statement said in part:

The terror and bloodshed caused by the Reaper drones lies on all of our shoulders. As Thomas Merton once wrote, "If you love peace, then hate injustice, hate tyranny, hate greed - but hate these things in yourself, not in another." Therefore, we come to the gates today in atonement for our complicity in these crimes and to resist the atrocities of drones, to resist our nation's endless wars and to cultivate a culture of love and not fear.

The group then blocked the entrance to the base with signs and banners. New York City Catholic Worker Brian Hynes was allowed to vigil without arrest on the side of the main entrance, usually prohibited. The other seven, from Vermont, Maryland, New York City, and Ithaca, New York were arrested and charged with trespass.

Bill Ofenlock was only charged with trespass. Two of the protesters, Clare Grady and Martha Hennessy, were also charged with violation of an OoP. Liz McAlister and Erica Brock were additionally charged with disorderly conduct. McAlister and Ofenloch were released on their

continued on next column

FUTURE ACTIONS

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

keep space for peace

Keep Space for Peace Week, the annual International Week of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space, takes place October 4-11, 2014. This year's theme: Full Spectrum Resistance to Full Spectrum Dominance. For more information and to include your local event or protest in a growing list of international events, visit space4peace.org or call 207-443-9502.

campaign nonviolence

Pace e Bene's Campaign Nonviolence is promoting local events in late September to bring active nonviolence into the mainstream. The National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) is planning an anti-war die-in at the White House on September 23, details pending. For more information, contact Joy First, joyfirst5@gmail.com. For a full list of Campaign Nonviolence events, visit paceebene.org/events.

ft. benning

Despite efforts by Columbus, Georgia city police to restrict this year's Vigil to Close the School of the Americas on November 21-23, the demonstration will proceed as planned. The police originally denied SOA Watch a permit for stage and speakers at the main gate and limited the demonstration, which historically draws thousands, to 200 people on a sidewalk. Previous attempts to restrict the vigil have been stopped in federal court. For more information, including a schedule of events, visit soaw.org/take-action/november-vigil or call 202-234-3440.

continued from first column

own recognizance, while Grady and Hennessy were initially held on \$10,000 bail. Felton Davis, Erica Brock and Joan Pleune were held on \$2,500 bail. Bail for all was eventually reduced and all were out of jail by August 1.

Davis returned to court on August 5, receiving a sentence of time served in exchange for his plea of guilty. The others join more than a dozen other defendants who are on the court's docket through July, 2015, and face a possible year in jail.

TWO JULY TRIALS

Meanwhile, two individuals trials in July had different facts, different juries and different endings.

Educator and Veteran for Peace Jack Gilroy was convicted July 16 of trespass and obstruction of governmental administration (OGA) after a two-day jury trial in DeWitt Town Court. He was among 31 people arrested at Hancock on April 28, 2013.

Regarding the April 2013 protest, Gilroy testified that the boundaries of the base were unclear and unmarked at the time. He said his intention was to send a message to base personnel and the public, not to disrupt the operation of the base. Only one gate was affected by the symbolic die-in he participated in, which blocked the inbound lane of the access road. He had been arrested and removed 30 seconds after lying in the road so must have had little effect on potential base traffic.

He will be sentenced by Judge Robert Jokl on October 1, and on the OGA charge faces up to one year in jail and a fine of \$1,000. Gilroy's OoP was also reissued as a two-year Permanent Order protecting the current base commander.

Vietnam veteran Russell Brown was acquitted by a jury after defending himself on the OGA charge in a two-day trial. He was arrested during the April 2013 action when he participated in street theater and lay down in the roadway across from the base, clothes splattered in "blood" to symbolize the death of drone victims.

Brown testified that the wars of the last decade brought back his experiences in Vietnam. "Lying in that road was the most peaceful moment I've experienced since I left Vietnam," he said. "I was silent then in the face of those atrocities and I can't be silent anymore."

It served to transform feelings of guilt into regret, perhaps even in the eyes of the jury, who closely attended to his message. They were smiling as they returned to give the verdict. Later one juror asked a supporter to "Thank Russell for us! My brother was in the Vietnam War and lost his leg. We know what the vets went through." The juror also acknowledged the PTSD drone pilots experience. Another juror said, "We did what needed to be done. It was fair and just."

Donations to the bail fund and to support appeals of convictions and the OoP are needed. For more information and to donate online, visit upstatedroneaction.org, or send donations to Upstate Drone Action, c/o the Syracuse Peace Council, 2013 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13210.



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4.10.2014 - International Actionday Against Use of Drones for Murder and Surveillance

October 4, 2014 has been designated an International Day of Actions Against Drones. CodePink is promoting events in the U.S. in coordination with activists in Germany and the United Kingdom, including nonviolent direct actions at drone bases and makers.

For updates visit droneswatch.org and knowdrones.com.

swan island

For the fifth year in a row, peace activists are returning to the Swan Island Military Base in Queenscliff, Victoria, Australia for a week of nonviolently resisting Australian special forces involvement in dirty wars in Afghanistan and Africa. Join the Swan Island Peace Convergence September 28 - October 3 for educational workshops, non-violence training, engagement with the local community and creative direct action to blockade the bridge to Swan Island military base. For more information, visit swanlandpeace.org, or email swanlandpeace@gmail.com

shannon airport, ireland

After 13 years of whistleblowing, formal complaints to the police, 100,000 marching in Dublin, direct action, court, fines, imprisonment and much more, Shannonwatch is calling for a mass demonstration on October 12 at the Irish airport against the violation of Irish neutrality by U.S. military transports' unimpeded use of the international airport. Come to Shannon and take whatever actions individual circumstance and conscience demand and allow. For more information, visit shannonwatch.org.

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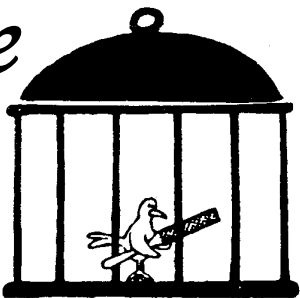
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OAK RIDGE: Chris Spicer surrendered at the Anderson County, Tennessee detention center on August 10 to face a state charge of trespass at the Y-12 nuclear weapons complex last winter. Spicer was jailed until a court appearance four days later, when he pled guilty and was sentenced to 30 days in jail, suspended, a \$10 fine and court fees totalling \$388. He was released later that day and given until September 2 to pay or explain his refusal in court. Spicer had been arrested on January 26, the eve of a sentencing hearing for the Transform Now Plowshares activists, when he left the weekly peace vigil across from the Y-12 gate and walked across the line. At that time, he was held for two days. He then left the state and did not appear in court as scheduled a few days later...

MORDECHAI VANUNU: Israeli authorities have again renewed the post-sentence restrictions prohibiting the Israeli nuclear whistleblower from speaking with foreigners, visiting foreign embassies, and leaving Israel. In June, the High Court rejected another appeal of the ongoing restrictions, accepting the argument of the government that “no restriction or guarantee to which your client might agree has the power to protect the state of Israel and its residents from the damage your client’s departure from Israel is liable to cause...which would be irreversible, via the information in his possession that hasn’t yet been published...” Vanunu’s petition to attend a June 17 London conference organized by Amnesty International to promote protection of whistleblowers, and to then address Parliament at the invitation of 54 members was also rejected. His attorney Avigdor Feldman told Amnesty, “Upholding these undemocratic and ridiculous restrictions for the past 10 years, after Vanunu had served a prison sentence of 18 years, has nothing to do with the security of the state...(The limitations) are vindictive and cruel steps which serve on purpose – to make an outcast of Vanunu, and destroy him as a human being and as a true anti-nuclear activist.”...

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Four School of the Americas Watch activists had property defacement charges dismissed at their initial appearance in Superior Court on June 5. They were charged in May after wheatpasting an alley wall with a mural display of posters depicting foreign victims of the U.S. military training academy and its graduates implicated in human rights abuses...

Update Files



EUROPE’S OLD REACTORS: Fifty-three Greenpeace activists from across Europe who occupied the Fessenheim nuclear power plant March 18 go on trial September 4 in Colmar, France. After their arrest they’d been held for several hours, then deported across the Rhein to Germany. The Greenpeace team in Switzerland have now been reported for prosecution for their March 5 occupation of the Beznau reactor...

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE: In a very brief appearance on July 8, Steve Baggarly’s ticket for “not walking on the left side of the road” during a Good Friday drone warfare protest in April was dismissed by a Hampton, Virginia judge, who didn’t want to hear his statement opposing drone warfare. Sr. Ardeh Platte paid a \$100 fine for the ticket, in lieu of returning to Virginia for court. The threat of federal charges for four others arrested that day as the group tried to deliver a letter of protest to the base commander has not materialized...

VOLK FIELD: Following their May arrest at the annual open house, when they leafletted visitors with flyers critical of the Wisconsin Air National Guard’s drone training center, Fr. Jim Murphy and Bonnie Block both pled not guilty to trespass and disorderly conduct. Murphy has a bench trial set for September 11 while Block still awaits her trial date...

WHITEMAN AIR FORCE BASE: A federal trespass charge against Tamara Severns has been dropped. Severns was arrested without warning on April 6 while attending a rally against drone warfare at the Missouri base. Severns was nabbed when she walked towards the visitor’s center at the gate to use the restroom, as people had during previous demonstrations. But the rules had changed, and Severns had missed that announcement...

NAVAL BASE KITSAP/BANGOR: As a consequence of their Good Friday arrest at Lockheed Martin in Sunnyvale, California, Ed Ehmke and Mary Jane Parrine were notified that they had violated their federal probation sentence from a line-crossing at the Trident nuclear submarine base in Washington last year. After two months of communication with probation officers in Washington and California, they were ordered to perform 50 hours each of community service in California, eliminating the need to return to Washington State. Mary Jane Parrine has not been summoned to county court for the Good Friday arrest, and Ehmke and Fr. Steve Kelly had been released without charge after four days in jail...

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK: Six people, including students who faced school disciplinary action, have had an assortment of criminal charges dismissed that resulted from a protest in September, 2013 against the appointment to a visiting faculty position and arrival on campus of former army general and alleged war criminal David Petraeus...

DSEI ARMS FAIR: Dan Ashman pleaded lawful necessity at his July 4 trial for willful obstruction of a highway last September, blocking weapons from being transported into the London exhibition hall for sales to repressive regimes. He was convicted and given a conditional discharge plus costs...

ANNOUNCEMENT

...**The Handbook for Nonviolent Campaigns** (2nd Ed.), published by the War Resisters International (WRI), features more diverse contributors, additional case studies, training exercises and campaign building tools to help activists run more effective campaigns. The original was translated into over ten languages and has been used by activists all over the world. Five main sections comprise this new edition: Introduction to nonviolence; Developing strategic campaigns; Organizing effective nonviolent action; Case studies: stories and experiences; and Training & exercises. There is also a glossary, a DIY section and an extensive list of other resources. Available from the War Resisters League in New York at bit.ly/NVHandbook or from WRI in London at www.wri-irg.org/node/3855.

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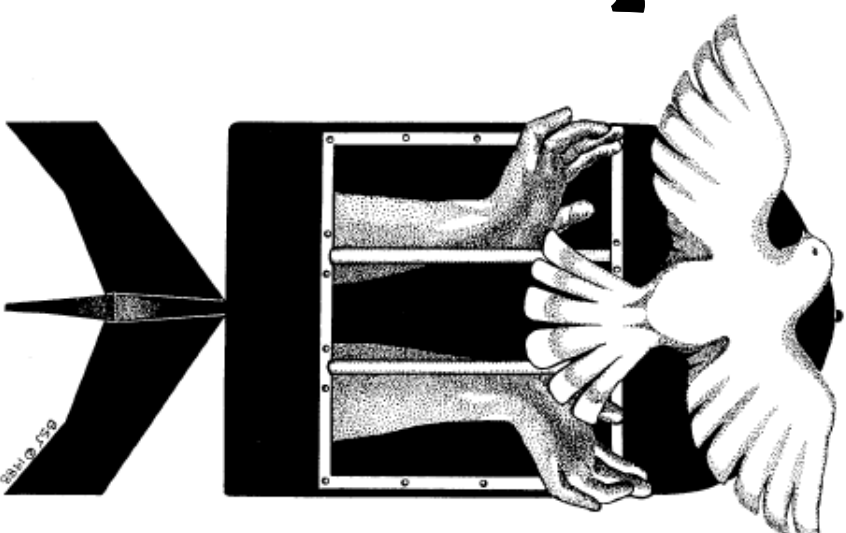
“A Chronicle of Hope”

Hiroshima and Nagasaki
Anniversary Actions

One Year in Jail for
Drone War Foe

Resistance in the
Heartland

Action Campers
Arrested in Germany



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ANTI-NUCLEAR
& ANTI-WAR
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...and more

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