

the Nuclear Resister

"A Chronicle of Hope"

No. 144

November 11, 2006

A Declaration of Peace Nonviolent Resistance at Post-Occupation Peak

In late September, the complimentary efforts of the Declaration of Peace (DoP) campaign and the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) combined to produce the greatest number of coordinated civil resistance actions resulting in arrest since the invasion of Iraq in March, 2003.

march around the Capitol and on to the Senate office buildings. At the morning rally in Upper Senate Park, Army veteran Ellen Barfield told the crowd, "We are here today to confront our dilatory Congress, who needs to get a spine. And we hope to help them with that little problem."



photo by Ted Stein/Resistance Media

Iraq war opponents carry the first in a procession of coffins to the doors of Congress, September 26, 2006.

In some districts, the pressure of nonviolent direct action continues to be brought upon senators and congressional representatives to pass legislation to bring the troops home quickly, cut off funding for the war, and oppose future "preemptive" wars - three of the principal demands of the Declaration of Peace.

Because these explicit goals had not been met by the September 21 deadline, campaign organizers, religious leaders, veterans and others from around the country formally delivered the Declaration to the White House on September 21, and kicked off the resistance with the blockade of the west gate. Thirty-four people were arrested.

All told, over 270 people in at least 17 cities were arrested as they engaged in nonviolent civil disobedience at Congressional offices, military bases, military recruitment centers, public spaces and at the White House.

The NCNR sponsored the civil resistance actions in Washington, D.C. on September 26. The plan was to

As an interfaith liturgy concluded, Capitol police told Max Obuszewski of Baltimore, who served on the NCNR permit committee, that no one would be allowed to march out of the Park without risking arrest.

Obuszewski writes: "The Pledge of Resistance-Baltimore affinity group brought to the march a commemorative coffin decorated with photographs of the dead and wounded in Iraq. A number of seasoned peace activists joined us, as we hoped to deliver this coffin to the steps of the U.S. Capitol despite the warnings from the police.

"Once the rally concluded, some 250 to 300 people of peace started to march towards the Capitol. As expected, the police told us we could not cross Constitution Avenue. How ironic was the police behavior?

I vociferously argued our First Amendment right to cross a street in Washington, D.C.

"And twenty-five people, resolute in the need to end the war, were ready to cross the street regardless of the consequences. However, rather than arresting us, the police lines parted like the Red Sea for Moses, and we briskly moved towards the Capitol. The rest of the marchers headed off to the Senate Office Buildings.

"After we were on the other side of Constitution Avenue, one of the police lawyers came over to me to announce we now had a permit for the west lawn of the Capitol. I thanked him and said I must discuss it with my affinity group. But we kept moving and keeping our eyes on the prize of the Capitol steps.

"Johnny Barber from the Buddhist Peace Fellowship in Florida led us away from the police phalanx intent on stopping our movement. However as we scurried up an alternate path, the police backtracked and

continued on page 4

Bush War Crime Verdict Delivered to U.N.

Representatives of the ad hoc International Commission of Inquiry on Crimes Against Humanity Committed by the Bush Administration (bushcommission.org) delivered its verdict to the White House on September 13, and then to the United Nations in New York on September 19, the day President Bush addressed the General Assembly.

Protesters lined up across the street to manifest their statement that read in part, "We have come to the United Nations today to engage in nonviolent civil disobedience. We demand the war on Iraq end immediately. We oppose any attack on Iran. We declare to the world that President George W. Bush has been found guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity. He does not speak for us.

"These crimes must come to a halt. As the Not In Our Name Statement of Conscience (January 2005) said, 'It is our responsibility to stop the Bush regime from carrying out this disastrous course. We believe history will judge us sharply should we fail to act decisively.'"

Police arrested 16 people for disorderly conduct, among them C. Clark Kissinger, convener of the Bush

Crimes Commission; former diplomat Ann Wright; Elaine Brower, mother of a U.S. Marine stationed in Fallujah, Beth Lamont, the American Humanist Association's U.N. representative; and disabled Iraq war vet Geoff Millard.

The police became more aggressive as they cleared away the protest, leading to another charge against Millard for resisting arrest when he fell down while getting into the police wagon. He was held overnight before being released, as was Fr. Luis Barrios. Barrios was knocked to the ground from behind by a cop and charged with resisting arrest and felony assault of a police officer.

In court in October, the prosecution was not ready to proceed on the charges of disorderly conduct, and were given 90 days to prepare or, as is expected, the charges will be dismissed. On the more serious charges, Millard will be in court November 9, and Barrios on January 10.

For more information, contact World Can't Wait, 305 W. Broadway #185, New York, NY 10013, 866-973-4463, worldcantwait.net

Military Refusers Call for Public Support

Two more public military refusers are now in custody, while more AWOL refusers have publicly surrendered and await judgment

AWOL Iraq combat medic **Sgt. Agustin Aguayo** turned himself in at Fort Irwin, California on September 26, and within days was shipped to Germany, where his now-deployed Army unit is stationed. He is jailed pending court martial. Aguayo's application for conscientious objector status had been rejected and his unit was ordered to deploy again in early September when he slipped away from his home in Germany. He then rejoined his wife and children in Los Angeles for a press conference before surrendering. He is currently held in the military prison at Mannheim, address below.

On October 12, Iraq veteran Army **Sgt. Ricky Clousing** pled guilty to being absent without leave and was sentenced to three months confinement in a military prison. Clousing did not consider himself a conscientious objector within the confines of the military's definition, but after one tour of duty as an interrogator, he had seen enough abuse of power to know this war was very wrong and that he personally could have nothing more to do with it. He should be released by mid-December.

The army has decided to proceed with the court martial of **Lt. Ehren Watada**, the first commissioned officer to publicly refuse to participate in the war on Iraq. In a pre-trial victory, the Army will not pursue charges of contempt towards government officials, particularly the President. Watada is assigned to a Stryker battalion based at Ft. Lewis, Washington, and will be prosecuted there for missing movement and conduct unbecoming of an officer. The court martial will occur in the new year, but the date has not been announced.

A special court martial is also in the near future for **Spc. Suzanne Swift**. Swift, also stationed at Ft. Lewis, went AWOL after being subjected to sexual harassment and assault in addition to the brutality of the Iraq occupation. She is charged with being AWOL and with missing movement.

Kyle Snyder and **Darrell Anderson** both recently returned from being AWOL in Canada to turn themselves in at Ft. Knox. Anderson was held for three days and then released from the army with an other-than-honorable discharge. Snyder thought he had come to a similar agreement with military authorities, but when it quickly became clear that he had not, he again went AWOL.



Letters of support should be sent to SPC Agustin Aguayo, Unit 29723, Box LL, APO, AE 09028-3810 and to Walter R. Clousing, Bldg. 1041, PSC20140, Camp LeJeune, NC 28542.

Military resisters, their families, veterans and concerned community members have issued this call for public support action:

"It's time for us to escalate public pressure and action in support of the growing movement of thousands of courageous men and women GI's who have in many different ways followed their conscience, upholding international law, taking a principled stand against unjust, illegal war and occupation and stood up for their rights. Widespread public support and pressure will help create true support for courageous troops facing isolation and repression, and help protect their civil liberties and human rights. We call for the following: 1) Support for War Objectors, 2) Protect the Right to Conscientious Objection, 3) Protect the Liberties and Human Rights of GI's, 4) Sanctuary for War Objectors. We urge you to join us December 8-10 for a weekend of action in support of GI Resistance and GI Rights!"

For more information, visit couragetoresist.org

University Tackles Free Speech

When corporations team up with universities to promote the most heinous and secretive crimes of state, is it any wonder free speech ends up bound and dragged, away from embarrassing earshot?

On September 29, the University of New Mexico's Office for Policy, Security, and Technology (OPST, an entity entirely funded by Lockheed Martin), Sandia National Laboratory, and Women in International Security booked a hall at UNM for a public panel discussion about new nuclear warheads and "responsive" H-bomb factories.

Greg Mello of the Los Alamos Study group wrote that "the six presentations ... were very one-sided, in my view amounting to little more than a sales pitch for the Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) program. Even pro-nuclear-weapons, but anti-RRW, views were entirely suppressed, as were of course all perspectives which

gave full credence to U.S. nuclear disarmament obligations under law."

The academic lipstick on this pig was quickly smudged when Bob Anderson, a former UNM professor and anti-war activist, spoke up and remarked at the outset, "You are talking about genocide!" and suggested they should place Greg Mello on the panel for balance. Campus police grabbed Anderson and pushed him toward the door, knocking him to the ground where they handcuffed him, then hauled him away to jail. Two other men were also escorted out after displaying banners, but they were not charged. After a night in jail, Anderson pleaded not guilty to the charge of battery on a police officer, posted bail and was released with a November 30 court date.

For more information, contact stopthewarmachine@comcast.net, or visit stopthewarmachine.org.

Vermont Yankee Resistance Grows

Bread and Puppet Theatre of Glover, Vermont added color and animation to a lively anti-nuclear demonstration in Brattleboro on October 13. About 200 people paraded five miles from Brattleboro Hospital through the business district to the nuclear power headquarters of the Entergy Corporation. Concerned demonstrators from all over Vermont and Massachusetts want to shut down Entergy's Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant. Some 28 people, most of them from Vermont, were arrested for trespassing after they crossed a line established by Entergy. It was the largest number arrested since a series of regular protests began a year ago. Police were resting after the majority of the arrests had been made, when some Vermont college students did their own action of dashing to the entrance with a huge "closed" sign they attempted to hang on the pillars before it was grabbed by police.

The aging nuclear reactor operates at 120 percent of its original capacity because Entergy has persuaded

officials that it is safe. The reactor's license is scheduled to expire in 2012, although Entergy has indicated it will apply for a license extension.

In the past year, the district attorney has declined to prosecute any nuclear resisters, not wanting to turn the court into a political forum.

For more information, contact the Citizens Awareness Network, 413-339-5781 or deb@nukerbusters.org (thanks to Marcia Gagliardi and Hattie Nestle for this report)

Free Speech Zoned

Port Charlotte, Florida

Restrictive "free speech zones" now extend beyond the President and his top aides to include his brother. Army veteran Robert Moran was held overnight on a charge of trespass October 18 at the Cultural Center of Charlotte County. Gov. Jeb Bush was due to attend a campaign event there with Republican congressional candidate Joe Negron. Moran stood near the entrance with two signs that read "Dumb men start wars" and "Guided by God, George and Osama". Police told him to move onto a sidewalk but he refused. Moran told the press, "I told him he was taking my free speech away and I wasn't going to move. He said he was going to arrest me and I said, 'Okay.'" The charge was dropped on October 27, and on November 9, Moran filed suit demanding a public apology and a donation of \$5,000 to the Disabled American Veterans...

St. Louis, Missouri

St. Louis police held Laurie Meier in custody for four hours on October 12, after she was escorted out of a renewable energy conference where she interrupted President Bush's address with shouts of "Soldier's lives are not renewable," "Out of Iraq," and "No blood for Oil." She was not charged.

Beaver Creek, Colorado

Steven Howards is suing the Secret Service agent who arrested him last summer. The scene was set when Howards chanced upon Cheney (the Vice) at a mall in a Colorado mountain town. "I simply couldn't in good conscience let this opportunity pass," he told the *Rocky Mountain News*.

"Your policies in Iraq are reprehensible," Howards said, lightly touching Cheney's suit as they passed in a small crowd. Ten minutes later, when passing through the same area, Howards was accosted by the agent, accused of assault and hauled off in handcuffs. He was held for three hours, and three weeks later the charge was dismissed.

Howards told the *News*, "What happened to me was absolute, transparent harassment. There's a pattern of people being arrested for protesting administration policies in Iraq, and I find this suppression of free speech a greater threat to the future of the country than Osama bin Laden will ever be. We felt this situation was laid out feet, and we had a social obligation to not let it pass."

"People's Signing Statement" Rejects New Torture Law

If you believe President Bush, the "terrorists" hate us for our freedom. By that measure, the "terrorists" won on October 17, when he signed the Military Commissions Act, legitimizing torture and unlimited detentions for anyone he designates as an enemy, U.S. citizen or not; suspending habeas corpus; and granting immunity from prosecution for military and CIA agents who tortured detainees in the recent past. A Mourning Vigil was held in front of the White House that day, around a coffin with the inscription "Here Lies the Corpse of Habeus Corpus." Sixteen people were arrested blocking the entrance as they sought to deliver a "People's Signing Statement" rejecting the Act. They were charged with interfering with agency functions and released pending a January 17 trial.

While Congress considered the Act during the Declaration of Peace week of actions, three Code Pink women were arrested September 27, speaking out on the House floor during its debate. Leah Bolger was jailed overnight. The next day, members of the Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition (TASSC) disrupted a Senate hearing on the subject of detainee abuse.

On September 29, at the end of the Catholic Worker's weekly White House peace vigil, TASSC volunteer director Harold Nelson was arrested after holding a protest sign in the restricted area in front of the White House for an hour, and refusing several warnings to leave. Nelson was released several hours later.

Four of the seven people arrested in front of the White House last June during a TASSC protest of war detainee abuses forfeited their bond, while the charges of "stationary protest" against the other three were later dismissed.

Thanks

Thanks to Nathan, Cindy, Ted, Jim, Polly, and Pat for helping to mail the last issue.

Don't Attack Iran!

On the day after the mid-term election, over 50 activists met on the sidewalk in front of the White House to deliver 6,000 pages of petitions printed out from www.DontAttackIran.org, containing about 80,000 names and 40,000 comments. Gold Star Mother for Peace Cindy Sheehan read the text to a guard at the gate, who then went to find someone to accept the petitions on behalf of the President. After some time, no one had returned to accept the petition, so by handfuls, the group began to pass them through the wrought-iron fence onto the lawn. When a phalanx of police moved in between the fence and the petitioners, the bundles of paper were given wing, and flew over the fence to scatter in the breeze, farther across the grass. Later that afternoon, to punctuate the petition delivery, Sheehan led a sit-in at the White House gate, and was arrested along with three others, cited and released.

Donald Has a Bad Week

The day after Donald Rumsfeld resigned, a Washington, D.C. jury failed to reach a verdict about three peace activists charged with unlawful entry into his front yard May 18. After more than four hours of deliberation, the six man, six woman jury told the court they were deadlocked. Defendants David Barrows, Mari Blome, and Pete Perry had argued in defense of their right to free speech. "We were not breaking a law," Perry said. "We were peacefully delivering an anti-war and anti-torture message to a public official we hold responsible for the unlawful invasion of Iraq and the sanctioning of torture of detainees held by our government." In September, the three were acquitted of disorderly conduct in a lower bench trial. A co-defendant entered a plea agreement with the government and is performing community service.

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 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 Coben-Joppa, Editors

Most SOA Prisoners of Conscience Released - One in Legal Limbo

Elizabeth Ann Lentsch, Jane Hosking, John LaForge, Edward Smith and Ken Crowley have all completed six-month sentences and walked out of prison in early October.

As thousands converge again this week on Fort Benning for the annual School of the Americas Watch vigil and nonviolent action, the last remaining prisoner from last year's civil resistance arrests is expected to be released by November 20. Maybe. Jonathan Robert's arrest at Fort Benning triggered his prosecution on outstanding protest charges, and a 12-month prison sentence that was ordered to be served concurrent to his six-month 'Benning bit. When he arrived at FCI Tallahassee in September, he began asking about his release date. More than a month later, the computer print-out came to his hands, indicating a release date of May 21, 2007. At press time, Robert is in touch with the Georgia public defender who worked out the concurrent sentence, hopeful the matter will be resolved by November 20th. His outside supporters are also involved.

For more information, contact the School of the Americas Watch, POB 4566, Washington, DC, 20017, 202-234-3440 or visit www.soaw.org.



If Jonathan Robert remains in prison, he will all the more appreciate a note of support sent to Jonathan Robert 92558-020, FCI Tallahassee, 501 Capital Circle NE, Tallahassee, FL 32301. If your letter is returned, that's a good thing.

FAST TRACK TO GRAFFITI ARREST

Christine Gaunt writes: "On 9/21 (International Day of Peace), after fasting on liquids for 31 days, I chose to paint peace signs on a railroad bridge near our home 2 miles north of Grinnell [Iowa]. A Sheriff stopped me, and charged me with criminal mischief. That cost me \$225 in court a month later. I'll just call it a small price to pay for raising my voice for PEACE."

**December 1 is
International Prisoners for Peace Day -
Complete info from War Resisters International
www.wri-irg.org**

Missile-Inspecting Nuns Begin Food Drive for Military Kids

The alternative restitution plan proposed by the three Dominican sisters who have already served prison terms of 30, 33, and 41 months was rejected by their sentencing judge in Denver. Last winter, Srs. Jackie Hudson, Carol Gilbert, and Ardeth Platte submitted plans to continue their vocations of community service in lieu of paying \$3,082 restitution to the Air Force, for damage to a nuclear missile silo on October 6, 2002. The rejected plan also documented \$600,000 in community service and in-kind contributions made in their name by supporters across the country since their conviction. Their refusal to pay restitution could now result in additional prison time, if their respective probation officers report unfavorably to the court. U.S. District Judge Robert Blackburn also refused their motion to terminate supervised release, meaning Gilbert and Platte still cannot travel out of the state of Maryland, nor Hudson out of the western half of Washington state.

Nonetheless, as this issue goes to press, the women are en route to Denver, where they will launch a canned food drive for children of Air Force families who receive food stamps and are in need of assistance. They write, "We hope and pray that this will put to rest our restitution mandate and requirement"

They will be present at the U.S. Attorney's Office, 1225 17th St. in Denver, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. each workday from November 15-28. People who wish to

donate may bring their can(s) of healthy food to them during that time. They have also extended their request to join in this canned food drive to people throughout the country/world. Cans of food are being sent to: Robert Brown, U.S. Attorney's Office, 1225 17th St. Suite 700, Denver, CO 80202 (Attention: Clerk of the Court). Include a payment coupon stating "For Jackie Hudson, Carol Gilbert, and Ardeth Platte, in lieu of restitution of \$3,052.75 please accept this food to be given to children of military families on assistance at Peterson AFB, Shriever AFB, Buckley AFB."

For more information, contact Bill Sulzman in Colorado at 719-389-0644, bsulzman@juno.com, or visit jonahhouse.org

Sentencing Due for North Dakota Missile Disarmers

The federal probation office has completed the pre-sentence investigations of Greg Boertje-Obed, Fr. Carl Kabat and Michael Walli, convicted of damaging a North Dakota nuclear missile silo last June. Kabat did not cooperate with preparing the investigation. Because the investigations are complete, sentencing has been moved ahead. In separate hearings, Walli will be sentenced November 15, and both Boertje-Obed and Kabat on November 16.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Clare Hochhalter, who prosecuted the case, visited the men at the local jail in Bismarck and estimated a sentencing guideline of 8-10 months for Boertje-Obed and Walli, and 24 months for Kabat, who has many more recent convictions. He also suggested the judge may sentence below the guidelines.

Their Weapon of Mass Destruction Here Plowshares action was the latest in the 26-year tradition of direct disarmament actions that give substance to the biblical prophecies of Isaiah and Micah that swords will be beaten into plowshares.

To learn of their sentence, contact Nukewatch at 715-472-4185 or Michele Naar-Obed at 218-728-0629, or visit jonahhouse.org



Letters of support should be individually addressed and sent to Greg Boertje-Obed, Fr. Carl Kabat and Michael Walli, Burleigh County Detention Center, POB 1416, Bismarck, ND 58502.

War Tax Protester Jailed in New Hampshire

A New Hampshire war tax resister spent 17 days in jail last summer, awaiting trial following two arrests inside the Keene, New Hampshire IRS office on July 27. Russell Kanning, editor of the Keene Free Press (keene-freepress.com), brought in leaflets for the office workers which read in part, "The American government... is the only government to have ever used a weapon of mass destruction, dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It tortures prisoners of war, and lays anti-personnel land-mines. Even now, the federal government is spraying the Colombian countryside with Roundup Ultra, destroying food crops along with coca..."

"YOU WORK FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT? YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THIS?" the flyer asked, and then urged "QUIT YOUR JOB NOW AND STOP BEING A WAR CRIMINAL!"

Kanning was charged with distributing materials in a federal building and failure to obey. After Kanning was released, he returned to the office. He was cited for disorderly conduct and released again. He didn't return to court the next day for arraignment, so police instead came to his home on July 31 and carried him away. He was convicted on all counts and sentenced to time served.

Inside @ Out

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

NUCLEAR RESISTERS, USA:

Greg Boertje-Obed

Michael Walli

Carl Kabat, O.M.I.

Burleigh County Detention Center, POB 1416, Bismarck, ND 58502.

('WMD Here' direct disarmament of nuclear missile silo E-9 in North Dakota, 6/20/06 - awaiting sentencing 12/4/06)

Helen Woodson 03231-045 (106 months - out 9/9/11) 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:

Federico Bonamici

Casa di Reclusione, via Nuova Poggioreale 177, 80143 Napoli Poggioreale (NA), Italy.

Silvia Guerini

Carcere "La Dozza", Via Del Gomito 2, 40127 Bologna, Italy.

Costantino Ragusa

Casa Circondariale, Via Prati Nuovi 7, 27058 Voghera (PV), Italy.

Benedetta Galante

Casa Circondariale, Contrada Capo di Monte, 82100 Benevento (BN), Italy. (Eco-anarchists on remand, charged with 9/05 sabotage of nuclear electricity pylons)



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

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 - out 1/31/08) FCI-Fairton, POB 420, Fairton, NJ 08320. (Convicted 12/04 of felonies related to religious refusal to pay war taxes)

Kim Ji Tae #201 (two years, in 6/5/06)

Pyeongtaek Gu Chee So, Dong Sak-Dong 245-1, Pyeongtaek, South Korea. (Resistance to forced relocation for U.S. Army base expansion)

Rafil Dhafir 11921-052 (22 years - out 4/26/22) FCI-Fairton, POB 420, Fairton, NJ 08320.

Ayman Jarwan 11920-052 (18 months - out 12/25/06) FCI Allenwood (Low), POB 1500, White Deer, PA 17887. (Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05)

Jonathan Robert 92558-020 (12 months - out 11/06) FCI Tallahassee, 501 Capital Circle NE, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

(Destruction of government property at the School of the Americas, Ft. Benning, Georgia, 11/05, six months; plus making a threatening communication to G8 Summit in Georgia, 2004, 12 months, concurrent)

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

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. Navy bombardment of Vieques, Puerto Rico)

MILITARY REFUSERS

SPC Agustin Aguayo (awaiting court martial) Unit 29723, Box LL, APO, AE 09028-3810.

Walter R. Clousing (3 months, out 1/07) Bldg. 1041, PSC20140, Camp LeJeune, NC 28542.

RECENTLY RELEASED:

Kenneth F. Crowley, Edward Smith, Jane Hosking, John LaForge, Elizabeth Ann Lentsch, Giuseppe Bonamici (to house arrest), Chiara Sacchetti (to house arrest)

Declaration of Peace, continued

continued from page 3

formed a line to prevent further movement. Adrenaline was flowing on both sides, as we demanded our right as citizens to lobby Congress. Fr. Jerry Zawada, recently released from a prison term for protesting at the School of Americas, got down on his knees and tried to crawl through the police line. It was too tight.

"Some pushing began, and the police line knocked down Eve Tetaz, from the District of Columbia, our most senior member. This forced me to lecture the police that we were people of nonviolence, that we deserve their respect as we have utmost respect for them and that we will not tolerate any more misbehavior. There were no further problems with the police..."

Another attempt to out-flank the police on the muddy lawn proved futile, and eventually 16 people were arrested crossing the police line. Donny Gann was the last of the coffin-bearers to be arrested. As others were taken into custody, one policewoman came forward to help him hold the prop up, and then gently set it on the ground."

Meanwhile, because all of the police had pursued the Baltimore group, over 200 remaining marchers simply turned around and headed east on Constitution Ave. to the Senate office buildings.

NCNR coordinator Gordan Clark picks up the narrative: "...some of the police realized their mistake, came roaring back and set up a line to stop us in front of the Russell Senate Office Building, one block short of our ultimate goal.

"A small group of us negotiated with the Capitol Police for 15-20 minutes. They continued to politely assert that our procession was illegal and could not continue - if we wanted to visit our Senators, they said, we had to return to Upper Senate Park (where we did have a permit), leave all our signs and banners behind and break up into small groups... Our decision was to stay put. We intended to proceed as a group, no matter what, and if they felt compelled to arrest us they would have to do it right there.

"The police gave a five minute warning, but that passed and nothing happened. Ten of our number managed to cross the police line and get to the Russell building entrance, where they were promptly arrested. Others called their senators' offices to demand to know why weren't being allowed in to see them.

"A giant Gandhi puppet, carrying a sign that said 'Be the change you want to see in the world,' came rolling down Constitution Avenue and evoked a huge cheer from our crowd, all the more so because the same puppet had earlier been stopped by police who refused to allow it near the Capitol complex. Interestingly, Gandhi was now being given an entire lane of traffic on Constitution Avenue.

"While all this was happening, Rick Ufford-Chase, Director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship and just-past Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly, continued to negotiate with the police. Rick is a pretty darn friendly guy himself, and apparently a heck of a negotiator, since after another 15-20 minutes it was announced that if we left our large banners behind, we would be allowed to proceed as a group, enter the Hart Senate Office Building, and reassemble after passing through security. Rick had re-emphasized our commitment to nonviolence, and had patiently explained that our planned action in the Hart atrium would be a respectful, interfaith-led protest of the war in Iraq. The police explained that if we did that, we would likely be arrested inside the Hart building.

"When this agreement was announced, it was immediately apparent how remarkable and unprecedented it was. The Capitol police would allow us to continue what they considered an unpermitted demonstration, and then enter a Senate office building - for the express purpose of carrying out another illegal demonstration. (The charge given those arrested inside was "unlawful assembly.")

"While some continued a protest outside, more than 100 of us entered the Hart building. Unlike any other Congressional office, it is designed around a large atrium, with senate offices lining the seven stories facing in on the atrium. If you control the atrium, you essentially control the entire building.

"And that is precisely what we did. Some read the names of the dead or held up peace signs on the balconies surrounding the lobby, while a large group assembled in a circle on the first floor for our nonviolent witness against the war. As it went on, the balconies filled with onlookers, until finally all seven stories, on all four sides, were lined with senate staffers and visitors watching the protest and eventual arrest of 33 of us. Several

applauded and gave thumbs up."

With the addition of another affinity group arrest outside, a total of 71 people were taken into custody that day.

A few paid a \$50 forfeiture, so they would not have to return to Washington with most of the others for November court dates.

Don Muller refused to cooperate after his arrest, and was held overnight. At his arraignment the following day, his failure to appear at trial for an arrest at the Pentagon last March was brought up, and both cases were settled after another night in jail and a hearing on the Pentagon charge in Alexandria, Virginia the next day.

Thanking supporters after his release, Muller wrote, "I was not alone. I did see, however, many, many people who have been pushed aside by our society and

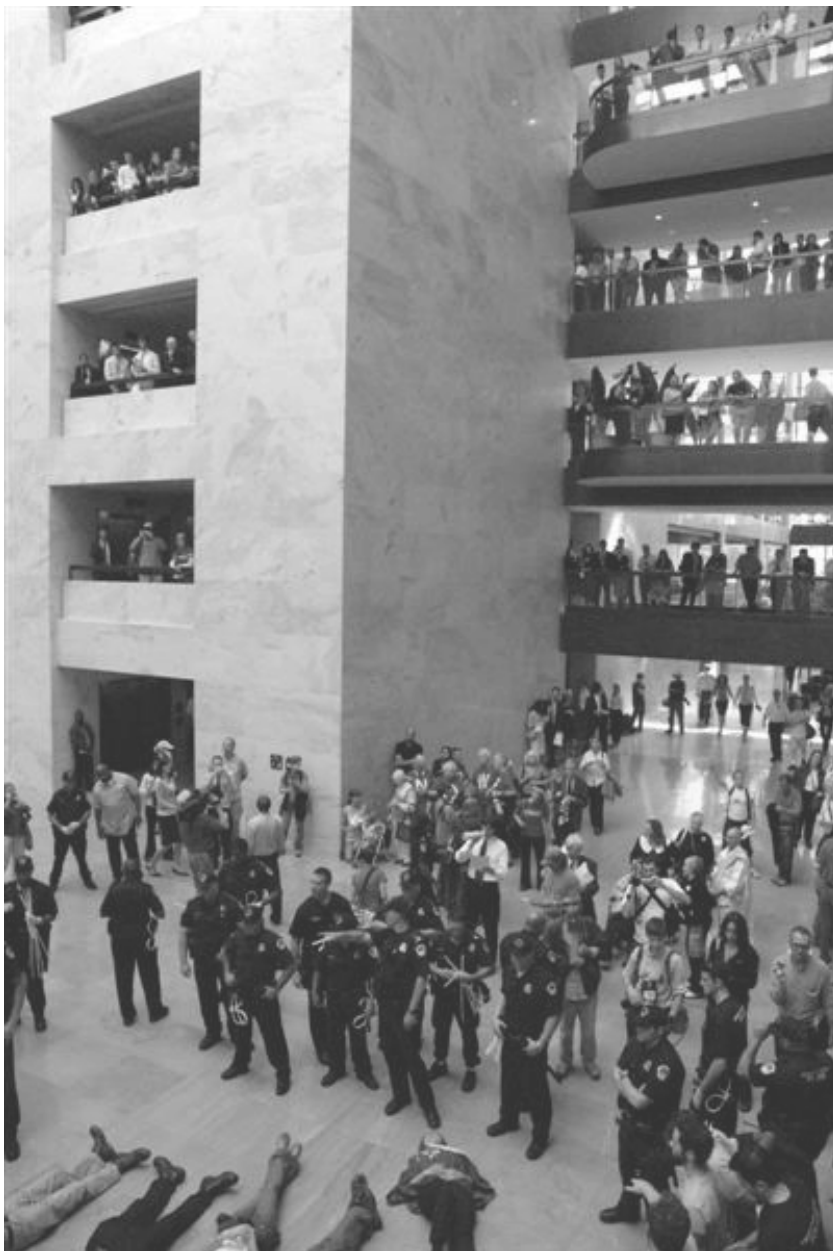


photo by Ted Stein/Resistance Media

The National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance makes a Declaration of Peace in the Hart Senate Office Building, September 26, 2006.

who are essentially alone and have had none of the benefits of being in this society that I take for granted. This is not a profound observation, but it is easy to forget and always astonishing."

The next day, signers of the Declaration of Peace again rallied in Upper Senate Park, then processed with twenty coffins in the Rayburn House Office Building. Police made no effort to impede the march. The coffins were placed at the entrance, and 26 people arrested after a die-in. Three who had been arrested the day before - Eve Tetaz, Fr. Louie Vitale and Fr. Jerry Zawada - were held overnight in jail.

Des Moines, Iowa

Sen. Tom Harkin introduced one of the measures calling for U.S. troops to leave Iraq by the end of this year, so Des Moines activists have lobbied Sen. Chuck Grassley and Rep. Leonard Boswell to follow Harkin's lead. More than 100 people rallied at noon on September 25 in Des Moines. Afterwards, one group of demonstrators walked across Nolan Plaza to the federal building, where the Senator's office is located, while another walked a few blocks to the office of Rep. Boswell.

The Senator's representative met them in the lobby, and quickly announced he would not speak with the peace delegation nor allow them up to the 7th floor office. They all declined to leave, and began reading the names of U.S. war fatalities. Police blocked four people who approached the elevator, and ordered everyone out of the lobby. The four refused and were arrested, cited under federal law, and soon released. All paid a \$100 fine.

While still supporting the war, the congressman nonetheless had his staff welcome the demonstrators, and arrange a 45-minute telephone conference call with him in Washington. The rest of the afternoon was marked by conversation with Boswell's aides, times of silence, and reading the names of Iraqi and U.S. war dead. Seven people held to their promise to remain until Boswell joined their opposition, but were arrested for trespass when the office closed for the day. Three pled guilty and were fined \$50; four will face a jury December 6.

Cincinnati, Ohio

Greater Cincinnati Declaration of Peace vigiled in front of Carew Tower downtown before taking the elevator 30 floors up to Rep. Steve Chabot's office. His staff welcomed about twenty people in for what became a six-hour sit-in. A meeting with Chabot was arranged for a few weeks later, but with no commitment to the Declaration forthcoming, seven people refused requests to leave. At 8 p.m., a force of some fifty police officers arrived and arrested the group without incident. Five adults were charged with trespass, then released. Two juveniles were released to their parents. The five adults have a trial date of January 22, 2007, while court dates for the juveniles have been postponed.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

More than 100 people processed through downtown on September 25, bearing a coffin and photos of war dead, chanting "Bush Won't Listen, Congress Must Act." They stopped at the federal building to honor the eight members of Congress who have signed the Declaration of Peace Congressional Pledge, then around City Hall to the building where Sen. Rick Santorum's office is located on the ninth floor. In the entry court, the coffin was laid down and the names were read of the 126 Santorum constituents who have been killed in Iraq.

Those prepared to risk arrest in an attempt to meet with the Senator entered the building at several locations. Four people had reached the elevator before police intervened and stopped ten others in the lobby, then turned off power to the elevators. On the ninth floor, the small group had to open the elevator door manually, only to find Santorum's office locked tight. When the fourteen refused to leave under threat of a summary trespass charge, police upped the threat to charges of defiant trespass and criminal trespass. Fourteen people were taken into custody and jailed overnight. A third charge of criminal conspiracy was thrown in, and all were released until a November 21 court date.

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Turning off the elevator as a tactical response to pacifist invasions of congressional sanctuaries must be in the Republican war plan. Two days later in Santa Fe, nine activists entered the federal building to collect Sen. Pete Domenici's signature on the Declaration of Peace, and told guards they would not be leaving until they had it. Guards denied them entry but the nine kept walking, and got as far as the elevator before police stopped them and flipped the switch, keeping the elevator on the ground floor with the doors open.

Given the quixotic nature of their quest in light of Domenici's strong support for the Iraq war, the nine were ready with the long lists of Iraqi and American war dead. For the next six hours they took turns reading aloud from the grim tally, their voices echoing out from the cramped elevator into the lobby. Police eventually cleared the public space and at 5 p.m. moved to arrest the nine, who were cited and released.

Winona, Minnesota

On September 27, during a twice-monthly legal peace vigil at the local National Guard Armory, three Catholic Workers went inside to deliver a Declaration of Peace signed by ten of the vigilers. They then gathered beneath the flagpole and unfurled a banner reading "End the War, Refuse to Fight, Refuse to Kill". They planned to remain a few hours while reciting the names of Iraqi and U.S. war dead. After an hour, police were called. The three were invited to rejoin the other vigilers or go to jail. Mike Munson, Diane Leutgeb-Munson and Eileen Hanson were arrested and jailed overnight to prevent their return to the armory. In court October 6, their prosecution was stayed, with charges to be dismissed if they stay out of court for one year and away from the Armory for 30 days.

continued on page 5

Declaration of Peace, continued

continued from page 4

Bellingham, Washington

A series of sit-ins at the office of Rep. Gene Larsen began on September 28, resulting in seven arrests to date. But what is now a weekly vigil to read the names of the war dead is relegated to the hallway because the office door is locked, and one activist has been barred from the federal building for life.

Although Larsen voted against authorizing the Iraq war, he has voted to fund it ever since. He was presented with the Congressional Declaration at a public meeting but has not signed it despite almost daily lobbying visits leading up to the September 21 deadline. One woman was arrested on September 28 when she refused to leave the office without hearing why Larsen will not sign the pledge. Margie White, 76, was fined over \$500 for trespass based on her past record of arrests.

Several who had left returned on Friday the 29th, to await Larsen's answer. A staff member told them the congressman did not intend to sign the Declaration. Brad Grower was arrested when he stayed past closing time, talking on the office phone to the congressman's staff in Washington, D.C. Gower pled guilty and received a smaller fine, as it was his first arrest.

The next Monday, October 2, Al and Dotte Dale, a couple in their 80s, were arrested in the office. They pled guilty and paid a fine.

On October 13, Stephanie Kountouros, Lisa Marcus and Ellen Murphy were arrested. They pleaded not guilty, and were put on written notice not to return to his office until 2007. One week later, Ellen Murphy returned with a few other women, all dressed in black, to resume reading the names of war dead. Murphy presumed she could remain in the hallway, as she was only "excluded from room 206." But they all stayed in the hall, locked out of their representative's office. Police arrived and despite her protestations, arrested Murphy for violating the order. She was again cited for trespass and this time issued a new order, barring her for life from the entire city-owned federal building. Murphy pleaded not guilty, and awaits trial. The weekly vigils continue in the hall, without the three barred women.

Clueless as a congressman (to coin the apt phrase), Larsen approached Al Dale as he protested outside a more recent fundraising event and asked, "What do you people want?"

Indian Island, Washington

The Naval Magazine Indian Island, near Port Townsend, Washington, is the only west coast ammunition depot, a critical shipping terminal for the U.S. war machine. It was the destination for over 300 people who marched four miles on September 23, following a Peace and Justice Festival in nearby Chimacum. When they arrived at the entrance, 37 people acted on their pledge to support the Declaration of Peace by sitting down in the road to block access to the depot. Arrestees were bused away to the local jail, where they were cited for disorderly conduct and released with a letter banning them from the navy base. One person pled guilty at arraignment, but their sentencing is postponed until the entire group's next pre-trial hearing November 29.

Cranston, Rhode Island

Senator Jack Reed has been a critic of the Iraq war, but only as far as supporting the call for a phased withdrawal. Military Families Speak Out and the American Friends Service Committee organized a sit-in at his Cranston office on September 25, not as a protest but a vigorous lobbying effort to get his support for the Congressional Declaration of Peace. Brown University senior Ingrid O'Brien told the school paper, "Our goal is to support him in what we see as a very courageous action ... against the war. We think he's in a good position to really be a leader on this."

Reed passed on the offer, and when they refused to leave his office at the end of the day, eleven people were arrested for trespass. In court October 18, they all pleaded not guilty, and later that day Reed dropped his complaint and the charges were dismissed.

San Diego, California

While wearing giant head masks depicting Mother Teresa, Gandhi, and a gagged Statue of Liberty, members of San Diego Civil Disobedients made political theater September 24 in downtown Horton Plaza, where 300 people joined a Declaration of Peace rally. Four people first blocked a Plaza stairway, then blocked traffic on Broadway, resulting in their arrest. They were cited for failure to obey a lawful order, and have separate court dates in late November. (One year earlier, two members of San Diego Civil Disobedients were arrested for blocking the doors of the downtown Navy and Army recruiting office with the message "No one signs up to kill or die today". When they reported to court, they learned no charges had been filed.)...

Wisconsin

Activists staged sit-ins at the local office of Sen. Herb Kohl in at least three cities, seeking his endorsement of the Declaration of Peace. In Milwaukee on September 21, fifty people demonstrated, many in the crosswalks blocking traffic at the intersection of 3rd and Wisconsin, outside the Senator's office. Four people refused a police order to leave the street and were cited for blocking traffic and disorderly conduct. They will plead not guilty on November 15.

That same afternoon, five people began a sit-in at his Madison office that continued through the night and all the next day. Office staff and a federal marshal took shifts through the night to stay with the five instead of arrest them. The five remained in the office for 27 hours, until leaving voluntarily at 5 p.m. on Friday.

On Monday the 25th, Kohl's office in LaCrosse was occupied with constituents reciting the names of war dead while waiting in vain for the Senator's change of heart. At the end of the day, six were arrested for refusing to leave the office without a peace commitment from the Senator. The trespass charges were dismissed a month later at the request of the Senator.

Sen. Kohl has recently affirmed all the Declaration provisions except a firm date of withdrawal.

Also on September 25, five people, including Wisconsin Green Party candidates Bob Levis (Congress) and Leon Todd (Lieutenant Governor) were arrested outside the Brookfield office of Rep. James Sensenbrenner, Levis' opponent, while dozens protested his support for the Iraq war.

On November 2, eight Madison area resisters, wearing red gloves symbolizing the blood on all of our hands, laid down first on the sidewalk, and then in the street in front of Sen. Kohl's downtown office. While the eight were chanting, "We have blood on our hands! We are killing innocent people! Stop the war!", the police moved quickly to clear the street, and charged the eight with obstruction. They are due in court on November 29.

Wilmington, Delaware

Members of Pacem in Terris had sought since mid-August to schedule a meeting with Rep. Michael Castle about the Declaration of Peace. "We were told someone would get back to us, but no one ever did," said Sally Milbury-Steen as she joined a couple of dozen people on September 22, outside the bank building which houses Castle's office. "It feels like our first amendment right for the redress of grievances against our government is curtailed when public officials are gated in private property and their constituents have so little access to them." Milbury-Steen and two others were the only ones permitted to enter the building and deliver another letter to Castle. Five others sat down in the doorway in protest, and were promptly arrested for trespass. In court October 9, the two men had their charges dropped because their paperwork never arrived from the police. The three women will be in court on November 20.

Oregon

A delegation seeking Sen. Gordon Smith's endorsement for the Declaration of Peace tried to enter his Portland office on September 21 but were turned

continued on page 8

Faslane 365

Just one week before the October start of the Faslane 365 campaign of sustained nonviolent resistance to Britain's nuclear submarine fleet, ten British nuclear abolitionists joined a citizen's inspection of the French nuclear testing center of Les Landes, in Bordeaux. Up to 2,000 people attended the September 23 demonstration against French development of the new M-51 submarine-launched intercontinental nuclear missile. The British activists joined about the same number of activists from Belgium and Sweden to infiltrate the site. Police later denied the activists had been inside, but nonetheless fined one organizer.

The Faslane 365 campaign seeks to facilitate the efforts of hundreds of self-sufficient affinity groups into daily blockades and other nonviolent direct actions of the Britain's premier nuclear submarine base at Faslane, Scotland. Over 50 groups have so far signed on. Participating groups have pledged to stay for at least 48 hours. This means vacancies still remain on the 365-day rota, and the invitation is out for any group in agreement with the Faslane 365 goals and tactics to come to Scotland and participate this coming year.

In honor of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Greenham Common Women's Peace camp, a women's only blockade of the Faslane base led by Greenham Women kicked off. Twelve women were arrested on October 2, held overnight and released.

Angie Zelter, Faslane 365 campaign initiator, told the Sunday Herald: "Women are incredibly good at staging long-term projects. We wanted to make a link with the women's peace movement of the 1980s and the women of Greenham Common. We want to link it with the success of the past."

The campaign takes place in the context of a public debate in the United Kingdom over the government's plan to "modernize" the nuclear war-making capacity. Some critics point out that the estimated cost of modernizing Britain's nuclear forces is in the same ballpark as the cost recently estimated for Britain to significantly reduce carbon output and do its part to avert the climate crisis of global warming.

A few days before the inaugural action, the local police commander wrote to Jane Tallents, long-time local Trident resister and de facto community liaison. He rec-

ognized that this was different from the Trident Ploughshares campaign of recent years, when major disruptions were tolerated for a day or two, because then the event concluded and "things would be back to normal".

"Clearly the intention of Faslane 365 is to disrupt the base over a prolonged period..." he acknowledged.

Police planning would be affected, and included "a designated protest area, behind barriers...sufficiently close to the gates to allow protesters to congregate on the pavement and from behind which their protests can be made safely. He specifically urged participants to recon-

sider any plans to blockade the main road.

The 6-person Steering Committee replied, in part, "We are aware that the level of disruption suffered by lawful traffic is particularly affected by the response and tactics of the police to our intentions to peacefully blockade the gates of the base where nuclear weapons are being deployed, in contravention of inter-

national law. We therefore hope that in choosing the police response and tactics you will also commit to minimizing disruption for through traffic.

"We also trust that you will take into account the level of distress the continued existence of the Trident element of the Faslane base provokes within civic society in Scotland and beyond. This is shown by the diversity of the groups that will participate in Faslane 365, as a look at the website will show. Included are church groups, parliamentarians, groups from urban and rural areas, artists, journalists, writers, academics and many others."

As the series of actions picked up, the impact on local communities of maintaining a sustained police presence became more apparent. Police are regularly called in from nearby jurisdictions. Authorities have responded to arrests mostly with a letter from the prosecutor saying that the person is not being prosecuted but that if they do it again they might be next time. At least 229 arrests have been reported since October 2, and although several people have been arrested more than once, only one has yet been prosecuted, and only brief periods of time up to a weekend have been spent in jail.

For more information, including information for people coming from overseas to participate, visit Faslane365.org.



photo by Faslane 365

Police in Scotland have been kept busy clearing away near-daily blockades of the Faslane nuclear submarine base by disarmament activists.

Happy Birthday, Gandhi!

On Mahatma Gandhi's 137th birthday, in an act of nonviolent direct action, 74 activists were arrested in Edina, Minnesota, while attempting to deliver a subpoena to Daniel J. Murphy, CEO of arms maker Alliant Techsystems. The subpoena ordered Murphy to testify at an upcoming trial of 42 AlliantACTION activists arrested last fall attempting to warn workers of war crime liabilities under international law. Among those cited was Mike Miles, Wisconsin Green Party District 7 congressional candidate. Four more arrestees were pulled from the edge of supporters who were "weaving" a web of yarn across the corporate office driveway.

The event was planned by AlliantACTION as a celebration of ten years of nonviolent resistance at Alliant Techsystems, and to conclude the three-day Stop the Merchants of Death conference organized by the War Resisters League at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul.

Last August 2, three AlliantACTION members who also own stock in the company arrived, tickets in hand, to attend the annual shareholders meeting. Local police and security guards, well-acquainted with the organizers, greeted them outside and refused them entry. The three refused to forfeit their right as shareholders, and were arrested, ticketed for trespass, and released. The perfunctory meeting was adjourned after only 20 minutes. For more information, visit alliantaction.org

Keep Space for Peace

Maria Allwine and Max Obuszewski went out to Fort Meade, Maryland on October 7 to observe Keep Space for Peace Week by holding signs and vigiling outside the National Security Agency headquarters. Eight security vehicles responded, and without warning or opportunity to leave voluntarily, the two were issued citations for disturbance, failure to comply, and entering a military installation. Arraignment is pending. Allwine, Obuszewski and six others arrested in July at the NSA will be arraigned in U.S. district court November 17. For more information, contact Max Obuszewski at 410-336-1637 or email mobuszew@myway.com

Campus Cops Challenged

When the Regents of the University of California visited the Santa Cruz campus for the first time in four years, a coalition of student groups held a speak-out and protest demanding action on a number of issues, among them "immoral UC weapons research, including nuclear bombs at Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos." When the crowd of students and their community supporters surrounded the building where the regents held court on the afternoon of October 18, police responded aggressively. Police dragged three people inside the building, then reacted with pepperspray and batons when others sought to prevent the arrests. The three were cited and then released several hours later because dozens of other protesters refused to leave campus without them.

Update Files, cont.

continued from page 8

riment in the judge's eye as he asked me what happened. I said something along the lines of 'Things had gotten a little out of hand.' I got a brief talking to about 'being on good behavior' for one year and a \$95 dollar fine.'...

OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE: Three of the eight people arrested August 5 at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant will plead not guilty, and face possible prosecution in criminal court. The local district attorney has been reluctant to prosecute in the past. A trial date could be set at a January 19 hearing. The other five pleaded no contest and were fined \$35...

PENTAGON: Five people arrested on Nagasaki Day have been to court, and two had their charges dismissed. Bill Frankel-Streit was convicted and fined, while Gary Ashbeck and Art Laffin's cases were continued...

CLEVELAND AIR SHOW: Five Catholic Workers accepted an agreement to plead no contest and serve 90 days probation for their September protest tableau under the wing of a warplane...

SAN FRANCISCO: Seventeen "Act Against Torture" defendants have had their charges dismissed with the assistance of the National Lawyers Guild. Their theatrical protest last March 20 blocked the intersection of Market and Montgomery Streets for about 15 minutes...

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

TWO YEARS FOR KOREAN PROTEST LEADER

Ji-tae Kim, the leader of a Korean farming village that lies in the path of an expanding U.S. army base, has been sentenced to two years in prison for obstructing civic affairs. Jailed since June, his trial was finally concluded on November 3, and the verdict shocked supporters, who were blocked by police from attending the court session. It was reported that seven other people arrested last May, during one of a series of police and military operations to evict the farmers, were brought into custody in mid-October. Their names and prison addresses were not available at press time.

A huge number of police and soldiers again attacked Daechuri and Doduri fields on November 8. The soldiers dug up the edge of the fields with backhoes and set barbed wire all day long, in order to block the residents from farming in fields that hadn't been fenced off in May, and from which this season's rice was recently harvested. Several demonstrators were arrested, and a unit of 1,400 soldiers has been created to guard the fields every day and prevent preparations to plant winter crops.

Since last spring, at least 719 people have been arrested defending the villages and fields, and warrants have been issued for prosecution of 73 of them. For more information, visit saveptfarmers.org.



Letters of support should be sent to Kim Ji Tae #201, Pyeongtaek Gu Chee So, Dong Sak-Dong 245-1, Pyeongtaek, South Korea.

And in Japan

The Pentagon's footprint in Asia is swelling in Japan, also. Marine Corps Camp Schwab, in Henoko, has also been nonviolently opposed by area residents since 1997. Just last May, the two governments agreed to a plan, and began implementation against the local interest. A first step was an archeological survey, so in September, residents blocked the cars of collaborating Nago City Educational Council members from entering the base to conduct the survey. At the second blockade, Rev. Taira Natsume was arrested and jailed two days for obstructing police duty.



Fairford Disarmers Hang Juries

For the second time in as many months, a British jury has failed to convict activists who attempted to sabotage U.S. military shipments through RAF Fairford in 2003. In September (see NR #143, p. 7), a mistrial had been declared after a jury could not reach any judgment against Margaret Jones and Paul Milling, a pair who disabled two dozen ground support vehicles. On October 11, Phil Pritchard and Toby Olditch also defended their way to a hung jury on charges of conspiracy to commit criminal damage.

The two men argued that their arrest inside the base on March 18, 2003, in possession of simple tools to damage bomber engines and aiming mechanisms, was a misguided interruption of legitimate activity. They had intended their action to prevent U.S. use of cluster bombs and depleted uranium munitions in the imminent invasion of Iraq because both are illicit weapons of indiscriminate effect. Both pairs of activists are likely to face trial again next year.

For more information, visit www.b52two.org

Pine Gap Resistance

Four people who face special charges for a December 8 citizen weapons inspection of the U.S.-run spy base at Pine Gap, along with some of their supporters, took a trek into the Australian outback in October. On the 7th, they were among about 60 people who staged a demonstration at the Pine Gap gate. Many sat down to block the road and five remained to face arrest when police moved in at the end of the day. On October 17, four of the five pleaded guilty and paid a \$220 fine, while an American man pleaded not guilty and will return to court in two months time.

On October 12, a court in Alice Springs ruled against the citizen inspectors' motion that the government must prove the base is vital to national security. It is enough, the court said, for the government to simply make the declaration of a "prohibited area" to justify a possible seven-year prison sentence on a conviction of trespass. Other pre-trial motions are still pending, with no trial date set.

For more information, contact Jim Dowling at penangke@octa4.net.au

The World Still Waits

"The World Can't Wait - Drive Out the Bush Regime!" network sponsored nationwide demonstrations and school walkouts on October 5. In Portland, where over 800 people marched, police demanded one group of marchers get back to the sidewalk. Video of the protest reveals that wasn't even enough, as police fired pepper spray balls and bean-bag ammo into the crowd on the sidewalk. Ten people were arrested and some injured in the process of corralling the remnant of the march. Most were charged with disorderly conduct and failure to obey a lawful order. Three face criminal charges, while seven were reduced to civil violations. Court dates are pending. For more information, email the Portland Legal Defense Fund at pldn@lists.riseup.net

In Seattle, police initiated an altercation when one officer grabbed the black and red flag of a Students for a Democratic Society group and walked away, taunting the student to follow. In the ensuing dispute, some tried to un-arrest the first person taken into custody, leading to at least two more arrests. The "Seattle Flag Three" were released the next day, two charged with obstruction of justice and resisting arrest, and the third for investigation of assaulting an officer. For more information, email flag3legaldefense@yahoo.com.

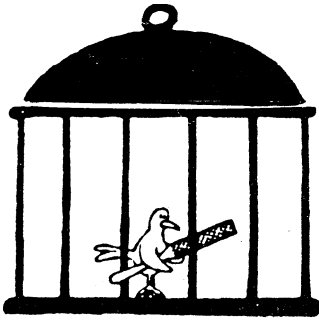
CHARLOTTE COPS RUN AMOK AT HUMAN RIGHTS FEST

Police pulled the plug on the Human Rights Fest in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Saturday night, September 23, just before dozens of cops stormed through a crowd of 200 with clubs swinging and tasers sparking. Six people were arrested, including one man hospitalized with broken ribs and a punctured lung. The festival featured four bands and an anti-war, pro-liberation theme. Police said the bands were too noisy and incited the crowd. For more information, contact the Action Center for Justice, 704-492-8527, email: ActForJustice@yahoo.com

WHOSE FLAG DAY?

Last year's public celebration of Flag Day (June 14, 2005) on Cambridge (MA) Common proved not to be so public when seven people were arrested for allegedly "disturbing the peace" and "unlawful assembly". Six had approached the stage to "nonviolently and civilly protest the invasion of our community by Blackhawk helicopters and tanks to harvest our young for Bush's wars, as well as to oppose the criminal and disastrous Bush-Cheney war in Iraq," wrote defendant Joseph Gerson of the New England American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). A photographer documenting their recruiting protest made seven. One year to the day later, they agreed to three months probation, followed by dismissal of the charges. They also agreed not to sue the City of Cambridge. For its part, the city will meet with the ACLU and AFSC about how to better protect civil liberties in Cambridge, and shield students from illegal and deceptive military recruiting while providing equal access to nonmilitary alternatives.

Update Files



RAFIL DHAFIR: The government has appealed the federal court's decision to provide free of charge the trial transcripts necessary for filing an appeal of the Syracuse oncologist's conviction and sentence. Meanwhile, MacGregor Eddy and Katherine Hughes have established the Dr. Dhafir Support Committee (P.O. Box 5789, Salinas, CA 93915-5789, www.dhafirtrial.net) to begin educating peace and social justice communities about his outrageous prosecution and 22-year sentence for dubious white-collar criminal charges that were piled on to the highly politicized charge of violating the embargo on Iraq by providing charitable aid to its victims. In public statements, prosecutors and politicians repeatedly tarred Dhafir's charity as having funded terrorism, yet never presented any such evidence in court...

VOICES IN THE WILDERNESS: A federal appeals court has also upheld a \$10,000 fine, plus interest, against Bert Sacks of Seattle. As a participant in the now-dissolved entity Voices in the Wilderness, Sacks delivered humanitarian and medical aide to Iraq nine times in violation of the same embargo at the root of Rafil Dhafir's prosecution...

PITTSBURGH: Legal fallout from the August 20, 2005 police dog, taser, and pepperspray attack on demonstrators at a Pittsburgh military recruiting office has not yet ended. Six people were originally arrested and four spent a day in jail before arraignment. Some charges were dismissed and at a trial last May, two defendants rejected a plea agreement then accepted the offer of a simple violation resulting in no fine or court costs. Carole Wiedmann, who was charged with failure to disperse after a police dog intercepted her exit from the scene, had the charge dismissed last December because the K-9 officer who arrested her had skipped court. Then in April, a certified letter informed Wiedmann that the officer had reinstated the charge. The officer was again absent on her first court date, and in August she was summarily issued a citation for disorderly behavior demanding payment of a \$300 fine. An appeal is pending, and also a civil suit on behalf of Weidmann, another woman who was tasered, and two children who were peppersprayed in the cops' ruckus...

ULSTER, NEW YORK: Last May, prosecutors dismissed trespass charges against two Veterans for Peace members who have been vigiling and leafletting outside the military recruiting center at a local shopping mall every week for over a year and a half. The prosecutor said it was not a criminal matter and recommended civil relief. So as they vigiled last September 9, the Kings Mall management served notice on Jay Wenk and Joan Keefe. They were summoned to answer a suit for \$50,000 in damages alleged by mall tenants who claim that Wenk and Keefe's reading aloud the names of war dead and distributing literature have cost them business...

RAYTHEON/DERRY, N. IRELAND: Nine men who trashed the war contractor's software development offices last August 9 will return to court November 23. Their resistance action has renewed controversy over Raytheon's admitted disregard for promises it made to the Derry Council upon locating there a few years ago, not to engage in arms production work...

RAYTHEON/TUCSON: An agreement to plead no contest to obstructing a highway in return for four other charges being dismissed resulted in a sentence of eight hours community service for four of six people arrested at a blockade of the missile and bomb plant last March 20. Before commencing the November 2 hearing in Pima County Justice Court, Judge Maria Felix invited members of Tucson's Raging Grannies present in the courtroom to sing one of their trademark parodies, "God Help America." Two other defendants were not in court, and expect the same sentence at a hearing in January...

MEPCOM: Diane Hughes, one of three people arrested last summer while reading the names of war dead inside the Chicago military entrance processing center, was convicted of trespass and sentenced to 30 hours community service, plus \$100 fine. The other two have a pre-trial November 15, along with a photographer who was arrested at the scene on additional charges...

SEN. RICHARD DURBIN: For refusing to leave the Senator's Springfield, Illinois, office last June while reciting the names of Iraq war dead, Tim Keough paid a \$150 fine, while Kathy Kelly took it to trial and was convicted of failure to obey. She is refusing to pay a \$50 fine...

FUTURE ACTIONS

It's not surprising that in a country the size of the United States, where the prevailing culture of political dissent leans away from hierarchies and towards decentralized leadership, several complimentary campaigns of resistance to the war in Iraq have developed with common tactics - nonviolent direct action - and a common target - Congress.

As this issue goes to press, organizers of the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR) and the Declaration of Peace (DoP) are developing their winter plans to target the next Congress, while also encouraging nonviolent resistance at other venues related to the war.

the occupation project

Voices for Creative Nonviolence recently announced the Occupation Project, a campaign that begins on February 5, 2007 and will run for eight weeks.

The Occupation Project is a campaign of sustained nonviolent civil disobedience directed at ending Iraq war funding. President Bush is expected to request more funds in late January or early February, with the military already asking for another \$160 billion for the current fiscal year for the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and the so-called Global War on Terror.

Affinity groups will enter the offices of Representatives and Senators demanding that they publicly pledge to vote against additional funding for the Iraq war. Possible actions within the offices include: reading of the names of U.S. and Iraq dead; tolling a bell in remembrance of the dead; silent vigils; and prayerful presence. Participants will remain in the offices to risk arrest.

Voices will work closely with the National Campaign of Nonviolent Resistance (www.iraqpledge.org) and the Declaration of Peace (www.declarationofpeace.org), which are planning actions to end the war in Iraq with details to be finalized.

To become involved with The Occupation Project, contact Voices at 773-878-3815 or occupationproject@vcnv.org. www.vcnv.org.

national campaign for nonviolent resistance

The National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR), formerly the Iraq Pledge of Resistance, is currently considering a variety of nonviolent resistance actions this coming winter, from a Witness Against Torture action in January to a mass action in Washington D.C., in conjunction with the UFPI mobilization on the 4th anniversary of the Iraq war in March. Additional nonviolent campaigns, including actions directed at funding of the Iraq war and a campaign to support resisting soldiers, are under development. For more information - visit www.iraqpledge.org. More questions? Email pledgecoordinator@starpower.net.

PALO ALTO: Five people who were removed by bolt-cutting cops from their blockade of a Ford dealership last March were not charged with any offense, despite initial reports of their arrest for trespass. The action condemned Ford's "fossil fuelishness" while making a statement against waging war for access to oil...

SEN. RON WYDEN: Five people arrested at the Senator's Eugene office last March have paid \$155 fines or did community service, and another had his charge dismissed after a subpoena for a Wyden aide now in Washington was issued, thwarting easy prosecution. Nineteen people cited for failure to obey an order to end their March 20 anti-war sit-in at the Senator's Portland office agreed to perform ten hours of community service. When asked whether there were any restrictions on their service, a U.S. attorney advised they "preferably don't work for anybody who advocates violence or war..."

REP. JEB BRADLEY: Six people went on trial October 30 for their May 31 Kingston, New Hampshire anti-war sit-in. Before delivering a verdict, the judge took under advisement their defense under Article 10 of the state constitution, the Right of Revolution, which concludes "the doctrine of nonresistance against arbitrary power, and oppression, is absurd, slavish and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind [sic]"...

FERNDALE, MICHIGAN: Honk hustling charges against anti-war picketers Victor Kittila and Nancy Goedert have been dismissed with their agreement not to hold signs urging drivers to honk, which was alleged to be a public safety issue. The city attorney acknowledged that the actual signs being held when the two were cited on different dates last summer were okay. After a warning, they had been amended to read "Ferndale cops say: don't honk if you want Bush out". The two plan to return to the weekly vigil with those same signs, and the constitutional question about encouraging hornblowers may have to be settled in a civil suit...

continued on page 8

martin luther king jr., day bangor

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday will be honored with a vigil and nonviolent direct action at the Naval Submarine Base, Bangor, Washington, on Monday, January 15, 2007. Organizers at the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action are hoping for as many as 100 people to risk arrest with them at this action, and need support people for that number, as well. Training begins that day at 8:30 a.m. at Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4418 Perry Ave, Bremerton, WA 98310, for the afternoon vigil and action. For more information, contact the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, (360)779-4672, info@gzcenter.org

lockheed martin

Brandywine Peace Community begins its 30th year and continues its campaign of nonviolent resistance on January 15, at Lockheed Martin, Mall & Goddard Blvds., Valley Forge, PA. Those planning or considering nonviolent civil resistance on January 15, need to call the Brandywine Peace Community by January 2 for the date, time, and place of the planning and preparation meeting. Brandywine Peace Community, P.O. Box 81, Swarthmore, PA 19081, 610-544-1818, brandywine@juno.com www.brandywinepeace.com

holy innocents washington, d.c.

The Atlantic Life community will gather to commemorate the Feast of the Holy Innocents beginning with supper at 6 p.m., Wednesday, December 27 through early afternoon, Saturday, December 30, at St. Stephen and the Incarnation Church, 16th & Newton Streets NW, Washington D.C. "We remember that the Magi disobeyed Herod to save the life of the child. What sort of disobedience must we contemplate to save the children so threatened today?" For more information, contact Dorothy Day Catholic Worker at 202-882-9649, or Jonah House, 410-233-6238, disarmnow@verizon.net

stratcom

In the midwest, the annual Holy Innocents vigil and line crossing at StratCom, the strategic command center at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, Nebraska, is again sponsored by the Des Moines Catholic Worker. For specific information, please contact Frank Cordaro, 515-282-4781, frank.cordaro@gmail.com

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Declaration of Peace, cont.

continued from page 5

away at the door. Nine people were arrested. Tom Hastings explained, "We're past the point of tolerance on this. This is an intolerable, illegal war..." Only Michele Darr pled not guilty, and goes to trial November 20. Hastings and Clyde Chamberlain were sentenced to two days of community service, and everyone else to a single day.

On September 26, two people were arrested at the Senator's Eugene office, which they had refused to leave without his signature on the Declaration. They were cited and released pending trial.

Bangor, Maine

Maine's two Republican U.S. Senators, Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe, were both invited to sign the Declaration of Peace and both declined. On September 21, several dozen people gathered in front of the federal building in Bangor to affirm the Declaration. Because Sen. Snowe was facing re-election, they only briefly vigiled outside Sen. Collins' office, then marched into Sen. Snowe's suite to extend the invitation one more time. Most spent the afternoon packed into her office and the hallway outside, singing and sharing with office staff the many reasons they believe the Senator should also declare for peace. Shortly before 5 p.m., they were ordered to leave. Eleven who remained behind were arrested and charged with trespass, before a ride to the jail where they were released. Nancy Hill pleaded guilty and was fined \$150; the others are negotiating a plea agreement to perform community service.

In several other places, no arrests were reported despite provocative actions like the one in Hollywood on September 28, where 28 people blocked a military recruiting station all day. Recruiters had closed for the day in anticipation of the demonstration, and police only chronicled the event on video.

More information and local contact details for the actions above can be found at declarationofpeace.org

Update Files, continued

continued from page 7

PLEASANT HILL, CALIFORNIA: Five Grandmothers for Peace who tried to enlist at the recruiting center last summer but were instead cited for trespass had their charges dismissed before they got to court...

SPOKANE NATIONAL GUARD RECRUITING OFFICE: Four people have agreed to forfeit a \$200 bond and thus avoid probation for a sit-in last March asking commanders to call for the return of Washington National Guard personnel and equipment from Iraq. A fifth defendant, former public defender Jim Sheehan, goes on trial November 8. A visiting judge called in to preside over the trial of the familiar courthouse denizen has denied any defense under international law...

SYRACUSE RECRUITING OFFICE: In June, nine people were convicted of trespassing last March 20, when recruiters refused to speak with them as a group...

DULUTH: Four women arrested for trespass inside an Army recruiting office last March 8, International Women's Day, were convicted in June and fined \$50. On April 25, John Heid was scheduled for an afternoon trial on a reduced city charge of obstructing legal process at the recruiting office in November, 2005. He repeated his sit-down blockade at the office in the morning before trial, and in court that afternoon his morning arresting officer testified against him. Heid was convicted and fined \$40...

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI: In October, a trespass charge against Catholic Worker Steve Jacobs was dropped without comment. Three others arrested with Jacobs last April 3 inside the downtown military recruiting office pled guilty, one paying a fine and the other two performing community service...

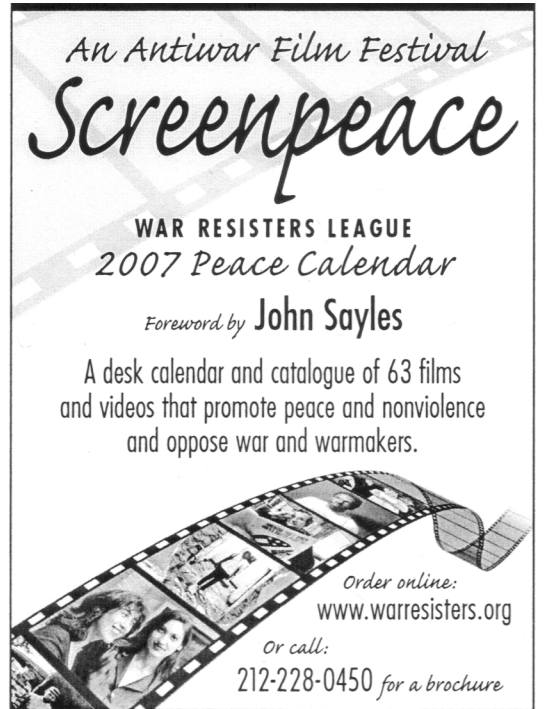
LANSING, MICHIGAN: Three people who pled not guilty were convicted of trespass at a military recruiting center March 20 and fined...

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Evidence mounts for the existence of a Black Hole in the Capitol's court. Iraq war vet Geoffrey Millard and CODEPINK septugenarian Chloe Jon-Paul showed up for trial at the appointed hour in October, only to be told there was no record on file of

their arrests at the Fourth of July parade. Eve Tetaz also showed up for her October trial, only to find she was not on the docket. Four codefendants who, with Tetaz, brought the Troops Home Fast pray-in to the White House last summer paid a \$50 forfeiture...

CANANDAIGUA, NEW YORK: Alia Souissi had her day in court for a disorderly conduct arrest when George Bush came to town in March. She writes: "I watched a bunch of brown and black skinned people and - I'm guessing by their clothing - poor whites get sentenced by a white judge. When it was my turn, I came forth and the charges were read by cops. The judge asked me how I plead. I said guilty. (It's true, I was guilty of the charges: I had said that police intimidation at protests is 'fucking bullshit') There seemed to be a twinkle of mer-

continued on page 6



the Nuclear

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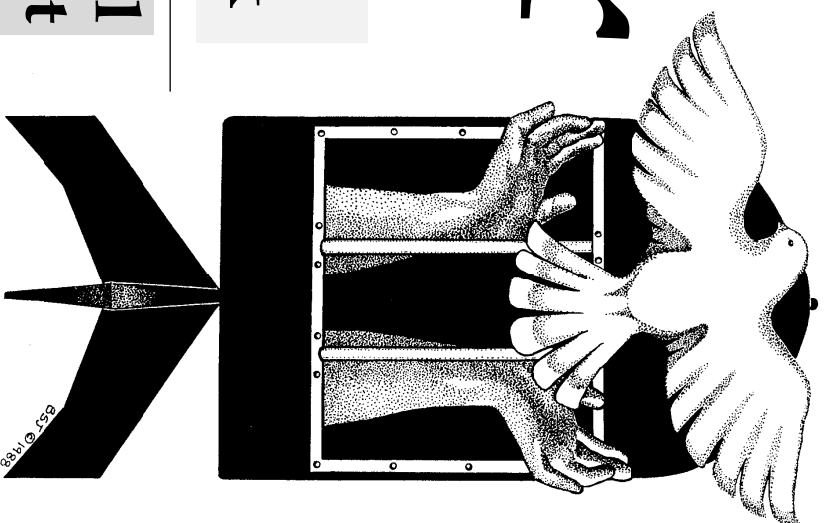
Nonviolent Resistance at Post-Occupation Peak

Military Refusers Call for Public Support

Vermont Yankee Resistance Grows

Two Years for Korean Protest Leader

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#144 November 11, 2006

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ABOUT AND
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inside this issue...
Prisoner Addresses, p. 3
Writings from Jail
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