

# the Nuclear Resister

"A Chronicle of Hope"

No. 148

April 8, 2008

## Algonquin Leader Jailed for Uranium Mine Protest

The spokesperson of the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation, Robert Lovelace, has been sentenced to six months in a Canadian prison because he refuses to obey an Ontario judge's order to stop blocking trucks from entering Frontenac Venture's uranium mining claims on the First Nation's traditional land.

"My only regret is that I should have started earlier and worked harder," Lovelace told a reporter who visited him in jail.

Lovelace, an adopted member of the Ardoch Algonquin band and recent co-chief, was sentenced on February 15 for contempt of court. Co-chief Paula Sherman was also sentenced to six months in prison for contempt and both were fined - Sherman \$15,000 and Lovelace \$25,000 plus \$2,000 for each day he is in defiance - while the Nation was fined an additional \$10,000. Sherman, a single mother of three, returned to court shortly after sentencing and agreed to abide by the injunction so that she could stay with her children. Her fine remains.

In a statement, co-chief Sherman said, "No consideration was given to the circumstances that led to our ac-

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## NATIONWIDE RESISTANCE SURGES AS IRAQ OCCUPATION ENTERS 6TH YEAR

Five years into the U.S. occupation of Iraq, civil resistance to the criminal war of aggression continues at home. In the space of ten days around the March 19 anniversary, demonstrations large and small, silent and loud, prayerful and angry, were organized in hundreds of American communities. During the protests in at least 20 different cities and towns across the country, over 400 people were arrested.

### WASHINGTON, D.C.

Congress was conveniently in recess as the anniversary date passed. But on March 10 and 11, before they adjourned, the Stop-Loss Congress Campaign delivered "official" stop-loss notices to all members of Congress in their Capitol Hill offices. The campaign drew many younger activists, some on spring break from college, to deliver the message that just as active-duty military personnel endure involuntary extensions of their tours of duty, Congress should have their tours of duty involuntarily extended until every foreign soldier and mercenary is out of Iraq, and home. "When all the troops and contractors get home, then Congress can go home, and no sooner."

A baker's dozen of assorted direct actions across the city on March 12 punctuated this message, resulting in at least 45 arrests during intersection blockades near the Capitol. Some of those arrested were held overnight.

Also on the afternoon of the 12th, ten members of the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance portrayed the Ghosts of War in the Senate chamber's Gallery. Entering the Capitol in small groups, each had spirited a large piece of white cheesecloth in with them, and took seats throughout the Gallery.

Joy First, one of the Ghosts, writes:

### School of the Americas Protest

## Eleven Imprisoned for Entering Ft. Benning

Ten people have begun serving one-to-three month sentences in federal prisons or county jails for crossing the line at Fort Benning last November 18. They were convicted of trespassing onto the base during the annual vigil and demonstration to shut down the U.S. Army School of the Americas (SOA) - now renamed Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC) - where Latin American military and security forces have long been trained. An eleventh codefendant, Diane Lopez-Hughes, began her 45-day sentence in the Muscogee County Jail on January 28, the day the eleven were convicted and sentenced.

Over the third weekend of November, 20,000 people traveled to Columbus, Georgia for the 18th annual protest. On Sunday, torture survivors led the throng in a somber funeral procession to Fort Benning's gate, to honor and remember the victims of state-sponsored torture and murder in Latin America. Meanwhile, ten people entered the military base at another location, through a break in the fence near a con-



Photo by Tom Bottolene/SOAW

**Prior to their arrest, ten of the SOAW 11 pose for the camera from behind Ft. Benning's boundary fence, November 18, 2007. (missing from photo is Tiel Rainelli, who was climbing the fence at the front gate)**

struction site. Lopez-Hughes, LeeAnne Clausen, Stephen Schweitzer, Gus Roddy, Ozone Bhaguan, Arthur Landis, Chris Lieberman, Michelle Yipe, Ed Lewinson, and Joan Anderson intended to bring their protest to the door of the military school that is linked to widespread human rights abuses in Latin America. Instead, they were arrested by military police.

Back at the main gate, Tiel Rainelli tossed a sweater over the barbed wire and climbed the fence. She was wrestled to the ground on the other side by the waiting military police, raising the number of people arrested to 11. Three more SOA Watch activists face charges from the city for refusing to relinquish crosses, the size of which exceeded Columbus police regulations for the vigil site.

The eleven were jailed overnight before their release pending trial. In a series of proceedings before Federal Magistrate Mallon Faircloth on the morning of January 28, ten of the group pled guilty or no contest, and were convicted.

Rainelli pled not guilty, and following a bench trial in the afternoon she was convicted as well. Rainelli told the court she didn't trespass to shut down the SOA, as her codefendants had. Her aim was to inspire her community - which she identified as the young and unemployed, with few options in sight beyond a dead-end job, prison or the morgue - to take action.

Each defendant was sentenced immediately to the following:

- Joan Anderson, 65, Casper, WY - 30 days + \$500 fine
- Ozone Bhaguan, 33, Duluth, MN - 90 days
- LeeAnne Clausen, 29, Chicago, IL - 30 days
- Art Landis, 74, Perkasi, PA - 30 days
- Ed Lewinson, 78, Newark, NJ - 90 days + \$500 fine
- Chris Lieberman, 54, Albuquerque, NM - 60 days
- Diane Lopez-Hughes, 58, Springfield, IL - 45 days + \$500 fine
- Tiel Rainelli, 25, Canton, OH - 90 days + \$500 fine
- Gus Roddy, 45, Chicago, IL - 30 days + \$500 fine
- Stephen Schweitzer, 45, Binghamton, NY - 60 days + \$500 fine
- Michelle Yipé, 45, of Argonia, KS - 30 days + \$500 fine

Ed Lewinson and Ozone Bhaguan received 90 day sentences because both had previously trespassed at Ft. Benning. It was Lewinson's fourth arrest, but despite his objections, he had never before been jailed because he is legally blind. This time, Faircloth relented to the prosecu-

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# Torture Foes Denied Bail, Jailed as "Danger to Community"

One month after Fr. Louie Vitale and Fr. Steve Kelly began five month prison sentences for their November 2006 witness at Ft. Huachuca against torture, 300 protesters gathered outside the main gate of the home of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and interrogation school in Sierra Vista, Arizona. Three people were arrested during the November 18 rally as they tried to enter the base and meet with enlisted personnel and officers about the interrogation techniques taught there.

After passing through a row of orange barricades placed across the road leading to the main gate, Betsy Lamb, Mary Burton Riseley and Fr. Jerry Zawada knelt and prayed when prevented from going any farther. While still attempting to share copies of leaflets they had written (see sidebar, below), they refused to leave and were soon arrested. The three were taken into custody and charged with criminal trespass, conspiracy to trespass and failure to comply with a police officer. They were

released a few hours later with a summons to appear in federal court in Tucson on December 4 for their arraignment.

The demonstration at Ft. Huachuca took place in conjunction with the annual vigil at Ft. Benning, Georgia. The torture manual used in recent years at the infamous School of the Americas at Ft. Benning (now named the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation) came from Ft. Huachuca.

## ARRAIGNMENT

At their December 4 arraignment, the activists entered a plea of not guilty to all three charges. Army prosecutor Captain Evan Seamone informed the court that at the time of the Fort Huachuca arrests, Lamb and Zawada had each failed to heed court orders in cases in other jurisdictions. Seamone repeatedly declared that their records of protest and defiance created a "danger to the community" because

Lamb and Zawada could again return to Fort Huachuca. He also said that more protest threatened to "disable the ability to train" interrogators at Fort Huachuca.

Because they had defied court orders in these other protest-related cases, U.S. Magistrate Judge Jacqueline Marshall ordered they be taken into custody pending a detention hearing for both in front of Magistrate Hector Estrada two days later. Because Riseley's record of nonviolent protest did not include any outstanding obligations, she remained free on her own recognizance. Lamb and Zawada were then taken into custody and sent to the private federal prison in Florence, Arizona where Steve Kelly was incarcerated (and where Louie Vitale had spent the first two weeks of his sentence).

Meanwhile, on December 5, the day after Lamb and

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## Text of leaflet brought to Ft. Huachuca

November 18, 2007

Today we join many who call for an end to our country's use of torture in interrogations at Guantanamo Bay, in Iraq, Afghanistan and in secret prisons elsewhere. We stand near the main gate of Ft. Huachuca, a U.S. Army post in southern Arizona, home base for Army intelligence and where all Army interrogators are trained.

We are here because we can no longer tolerate violations of fundamental human rights such as detention without trial and acts of torture committed in our names behind the vast secrecy which the present administration has instituted. Although Colonel Jeff Jennings and other training staff at the fort seemed sincere in telling some of us that waterboarding, sleep deprivation and stress positions are prohibited at Ft. Huachuca, we continue to believe that these brutal and dehumanizing methods are still happening at the hands of U.S. interrogators deployed abroad.

These acts and the secrecy surrounding them contradict our understanding of the U.S. Constitution and our treaty obligations as a signatory to the Geneva Conventions of 1949. They are deeply unacceptable to our personal moral consciences.

There has been widespread opposition to our current government's imperial policies of pre-emptive war, unwarranted telephone and Internet-based surveillance, the sending of invasive national security letters, rendition of many times mistakenly suspected foreigners to countries known to practice torture and the selective abolition of civil rights like habeas corpus. We have filled the streets; we have filled the Internet and telephone lines, the op-ed and letters to the editor columns as well as Congressional mail bags. Some of us have refused war taxes. And yet unspeakable, illegal and immoral acts are committed daily in our names as American citizens.

Gates and sentry posts always relate to greed, the desire to hold on to what we have and to keep people less fortunate than we are from claiming their share. It is not true that military people are more greedy than the rest of us, but they have accepted the charge of protecting our abundance with weapons of unprecedented killing power. They are enforcing the projection into the world of our unwillingness to share. We cannot reconcile gates, guns or sentry posts with the Sermon on the Mount.

Gandhi spoke of nonviolent direct action as an experiment in truth or satyagraha. We ask ourselves: how can we best honor our need to withdraw our complicity with our government's actions?

Our simple ritual of approaching the gate of Ft. Huachuca expresses our willingness to undergo suffering rather than to inflict it, and our longing to bring our country to openness and accountability. We seek to meet with enlisted personnel and officers on Ft. Huachuca to continue a dialogue about the interrogation techniques they are learning, how easy it has been for others trained before them to fall into cruelty, and to explore with them what they each might do to prevent themselves from repeating the horrible errors of Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib.

We may be arrested. We ask for your prayers, and we ask also that you escalate--in any nonviolent way you are led--your own efforts to end torture and the wars of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Love, peace, joy,  
Betsy Lamb  
mary burton riseley  
Jerry Zawada, OFM

## where we are at

While we've been busy between issues with supporting local peace prisoners, and more, the burgeoning resistance to war and nukes has provided more than enough news to fill these few pages. This issue features reporting on the most recent arrests and the people now behind bars. However, our commitment to chronicle this movement in print means that we'll be publishing a review of previously unreported 2007 resistance actions and updates as soon as we can. In the meantime, we're off to Colorado to visit family and join friends and colleagues for the 30th anniversary of the Rocky Flats Truth Force (Jack's resistance alma mater)... and soon after to Florida, for our daughter Emma's graduation from the University of Miami!

*Felice & Jack Cohen-Joppa, editors*

## Thanks

Thanks to Cindy, David, Faith, John, Megan, Cathy, Noa, Sally, Bob, Jerry, Betsy, Lil, and Mary for helping to mail the last issue.

Much gratitude also for the many responses to our request for donations to support the work of *the Nuclear Resister*, including funding of the archive project. We are seeking additional support for the archive project - contributions are still welcome!

We had hoped to have this issue finished earlier. Thanks also for your patience.

## the Nuclear Resister

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### YOU CAN HELP!

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

### SUBSCRIPTIONS and BULK ORDERS

One-year subscriptions are US\$15 in the United States, US\$20 to Canada, and US\$25 overseas. Payment can only be accepted in US currency or checks drawn on US institutions. All subscriptions are sent via First Class or Airmail.

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

### THE NUCLEAR RESISTER ON MICROFILM

*The Nuclear Resister* is available on microfilm as part of the Alternative Press Research Collection (1986 - present) and the Alternative Press Center Supplement of the Underground Press Collection (1980 - 1985) offered by the UMI Division of ProQuest Company, 300 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

### ABOUT THE NUCLEAR RESISTER

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

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

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

Jack and Felice Cohen-Joppa, Editors

## Tom Lewis, Presente! March 17, 1940 - April 4, 2008



photo by Paul Gingras

**A poignant and powerful witness  
To the survival  
Of endangered conscience.  
Just barely.  
His art rides the edge  
It hurts and heals.  
Best of all this art is one with conscience.  
In courtrooms and jails  
Tom Lewis heals  
The ancient killing split  
Between ethics and imagination.  
I celebrate this art  
A rare joy and gift.  
But the highest art of Tom Lewis  
Is his own life.**

**- Daniel Berrigan**

(more about Tom Lewis is at [jonahhouse.org](http://jonahhouse.org))

# MILITARY REFUSERS JAILED IN GERMANY

Last summer, three members of the 173rd Airborne, headquartered in Vicenza, Italy and presently deployed to Afghanistan, refused to ship out with their units.

Before refusing deployment to Afghanistan, the soldiers did not contact any of the organizations in Europe that support GIs; therefore they did not receive civilian legal counsel or media support at that time. They are now receiving support from American Voices Abroad (AVA) Military Project, a network of U.S. citizens in Europe supporting resisting GIs and the anti-base movement in Europe.

Andrew Hegerty, Jeffrey Gauntt and James Blanks were court-martialed last fall and with pre-trial agreements, sentenced to serve time in the U.S. military prison at Mannheim, Germany - four months for Blanks, who was released February 18; nine months for Hegerty; and 10 months for Gauntt.

Nineteen-year-old Andrew Hegerty was stationed in Vicenza, Italy, and was deployed to Afghanistan from May to September 2007. In September, while on leave in Vicenza, he went absent without leave. He visited his family in Wisconsin, then turned himself in at Fort Knox, Kentucky, hoping for a discharge. However, the Army sent him back to Vicenza. There he refused an order to take part in a meeting to prepare to return to Afghanistan. At his court martial in November 2007, in Vicenza, Andrew pled guilty to charges of desertion and failure to follow an order. He told the court, "I'm not really able to pull the trigger and shoot anyone."

Jeffrey Gauntt has not been in combat. He was stationed in Vicenza and left his unit on May 21, 2007, the day before they deployed to Afghanistan. On June 19, he turned himself in at the U.S. military base in Rota, Spain. He pled guilty to going AWOL and missing deployment at a court martial in September 2007 in Vicenza.

James Blanks was found to have left his unit on April 20 by failing to return from block leave. His battalion left for Afghanistan on May 17, but Blanks didn't return to base until May 21. He also was charged with disobey-

ing the orders of a superior officer after returning to base. He briefly deployed to Afghanistan before traveling to Vicenza to face the charges.

The three men will also receive bad-conduct discharges after serving their prison sentence.

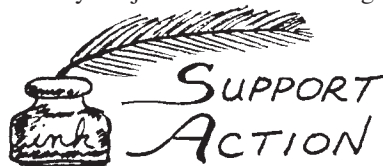
There have been several recent reports of military refusers who have turned themselves in to their base in the U.S. as AWOL or deserters only to be briefly jailed, if at all, and then quietly discharged.

In November, the Supreme Court of Canada declined to hear appeals from U.S. war resisters seeking refuge. Supporters are responding with nationwide protests, and increased political pressure for government or Parliamentary action in support of the expatriate resisters.

## LT. WATADA UPDATE

Since a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction last November halting a new court martial for the only officer to publicly refuse orders to deploy to Iraq for reasons of conscience, the Pentagon has done nothing to appeal the order, despite announcing their intention to do so at the time. Lt. Ehren Watada's legal limbo continues as he serves his country behind a desk at Ft. Lewis, Washington. Supporters continue to demand that all charges now be dismissed and the lieutenant be released from the Army with an honorable discharge.

For more information, visit [couragetoresist.org](http://couragetoresist.org) or contact Elsa Rassbach of American Voices Abroad (AVA) Military Project at [elsarassbach@gmail.com](mailto:elsarassbach@gmail.com)



Letters of support must be individually addressed and can be sent to Jeffrey Gauntt and Andrew Hegerty in Germany via this U.S. APO address: Unit 29723, Box LL, APO, AE 09028-9723, USA.

## Dr. Dhafir's Appeal Filed; FBI Moves Into Special Prison Unit

Dr. Rafil Dhafir's appeals brief was submitted to the Second Circuit Appeals Court on February 8. It can be downloaded at [jvblines.org/dhafirbrief1.pdf](http://jvblines.org/dhafirbrief1.pdf).

The government is due to respond in April, and Dhafir's attorneys will then reply.

The Iraqi-born and U.S. educated oncologist was arrested and jailed in February, 2003, and held without bond through trial for violating U.S. sanctions with his unregistered philanthropy to the Iraqi people, beginning in the 1990s. He is serving a 22 year sentence due to more than 50 added counts of disputed Medicare billing, and the relentless slander of the prosecution and media that he funded terrorists.

Dhafir is among a special group of about 50 predominantly Muslim prisoners confined to the special Communications Management Unit at the federal prison in Terre Haute, Indiana. The warden recently spoke to all of the men for a couple of hours, and brought news on a couple of the finer points of the unit's communications management.

E-mail hardware and connections have all been installed on the unit, and the restricted service for the prisoners with pre-approved correspondents is scheduled to begin in June.

More unnerving for the prisoners, however, and the major topic of the meeting, writes Dhafir, is the presence of an FBI agent among the prisoners. Earlier this year, the agent was introduced to mingle with them. It was brought to the warden's attention that was illegal. One man asked what law the warden could cite for permitting the arrangement. The warden simply said that the FBI asked and he okayed it! Another asked the agent to provide a written statement about his purpose in the unit and that he will not "entrap" people. The agent and the warden both refused, with the warden reminding the men that no one is obliged to talk to the agent or tell him anything.

For more information, contact the Dr. Dhafir Support Committee, c/o MacGregor Eddy, P.O. Box 5789, Salinas, CA 93915, or go to [www.dhafirtrial.net](http://www.dhafirtrial.net)

## Inside @ Out

### PUBLIC MILITARY REFUSERS

**Andrew Hegerty** (out 8/14/08)  
Unit 29723, Box LL, APO, AE 09028-9723.  
(Pled guilty to desertion and failure to follow a lawful order to deploy with the 173rd Airborne to Afghanistan, 11/07)

**Jeffrey Gauntt** (out 4/18/08)  
Unit 29723, Box LL, APO, AE 09028-9723.  
(Pled guilty to being AWOL and missing deployment with the 173rd Airborne to Afghanistan, 10/07)



### NUCLEAR RESISTERS OVERSEAS

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

**Daniele Casalini**  
Casa Circondariale, Via Burla 59, 43100  
Parma, Italy.  
(Eco-anarchist on remand for another alleged crime, and awaiting trial for 9/05 sabotage of nuclear electricity pylons)

### SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS

**Edwin R. Lewinson** 92126-020 (90 days - out 7/1)

FCI Elkton, Federal Correctional Institution, POB 10, Lisbon, OH 44432.

**Ozone Bhaguan** 92123-020 (90 days - out 7/1)

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

**Teri Rainelli** 93552-020 (90 days - out 7/1)  
USP Hazelton, U.S. Penitentiary, POB 2000, Bruceon Mills, WV 26525.

**Stephen Schweitzer** 93647-020 (60 days - out 5/30)

MDC Brooklyn, Metropolitan Detention Center, POB 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232.

**Chris Lieberman** 93645-020 (60 days - out 5/30)

FCI La Tuna, Federal Correctional Institution, POB 3000, Anthony, TX 88021.

**Arthur Landis** 93660-020 (30 days - in 4/10)

(check Inmate Locator at [bop.gov](http://bop.gov) for address)

**Joan Anderson** 93649-020 (30 days - out 5/2)

FDC SeaTac, Federal Detention Center, POB 13900, Seattle, WA 98198.

**Augustine Roddy** (30 days - out 5/2)

McHenry County Jail, 2200 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock, IL 60098.

**Leeanne Clausen** (30 days - out 5/2)

McHenry County Jail, 2200 N. Seminary Ave., Woodstock, IL 60098.

**Carna Yipe** 93646-020 (30 days - out 5/2)

Sedgwick County Jail, 141 W. Elm St., Wichita, KS 67203.

(Trespass at Ft. Benning, Georgia, 11/07)

### PREVIOUSLY LISTED, RECENTLY

**RELEASED:** Joseph Donato, Louis Vitale, Stephen Kelly, José Pérez González, Costantino Ragusa, Benedetta Galante

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

### NUCLEAR RESISTERS

**Robert Lovelace** (six months - out 8/08)  
Central East Correctional Centre, 541 Hwy 36, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 4S6, Canada.  
(Contempt of court order to permit uranium exploration on Algonquin lands, 2/08)

**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)

### ANTI-WAR RELATED ACTIONS

**Rafil Dhafir** 11921-052 (22 years - out 4/26/22)

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

(Convictions resulting from providing humanitarian and financial aid to Iraqis in violation of U.S. sanctions, 2/05)

**Brendan Walsh** 12473-052 (five years - out 7/15/08)

FCI Elkton, POB 10, Lisbon, OH 44432.

(Arson at military recruiting station, 4/02)

# RESISTANCE ON CAMPUS

## SANTA BARBARA

Several hundred students from the University of California/Santa Barbara and others marched on UCSB's Corwin Pavilion February 12 to shut down the 2008 ICB (Institute for Collaborative Biotechnologies) Army-Industry Collaboration Conference. They swarmed around and through police lines, dismantling the barricades and occupying a courtyard as lunch was being served to the biowarriors in suits and fatigues. Some people overturned tables and grabbed trays of food that were shared with police, conference collaborators and demonstrators alike.

Outnumbered police struggled to control the doors and contain the protest outside while protecting the conferees inside. When Michael Miller and Alex Harrison were arrested, the patrol car that was to take them away was surrounded and prevented from leaving until the men were cited (for delaying/resisting police orders) and released. Throughout the afternoon, some demonstrators made it inside and disrupted the conference proceedings. Patricia Zavala, who was allegedly tearing down posters in the exhibit hall, was charged with theft and delaying/resisting police. She was also cited and released because the police cars were still encircled by a mass sit-in. The disruption forced ICB collaborators to move the scheduled second day of the conference to an undisclosed off-campus location.

## CHICAGO

Three Chicago students were arrested on October 27 when bicycle police rolled up on an enthusiastic feeder march approaching Union Park for the mass anti-war rally that day. Jones College Prep senior Nicholas Andrews was at the head of the march and mouthed off to the bike cops who surrounded him. One officer said Andrews spit at him, and he was arrested for felony assault of an officer. Two Columbia College students were also arrested during the confrontation - Marck Hilgendorf-Sanchez for failure to obey and Sergey Turzhanskiy for criminal damage (he made contact with one of the police bikes.)

## Ft. Benning, cont.

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tion and punishment.

Diane Lopez-Hughes, who opted to serve her sentence immediately, had a unique story to tell the court: "As the daughter of a Guatemalan father, I am a member of an extended family that has experienced both sides of the conflict in that tortured country. In the late nineteenth century my grandfather was a general in the Guatemalan army. His mother was an indigenous woman. So my relatives have included those who have been repressed and those who have directly participated in the repression. And my own government trains Guatemalan soldiers in techniques that support the repression, disappearance and murder of their own citizens and those who would help them in their quest for a better life and just treatment. And I believe that the attitude that allows this practice is also responsible for our domestic and foreign policy that disrespects individuals and promotes injustice."

Ongoing support for the SOA Watch prisoners of conscience includes community mobilization and lobbying for Congress to cut funds for the SOA. From April

### From a letter to her peers by Tiel Rainelli, School of the America Watch prisoner of conscience

I have contemplated getting arrested for two years now, but punk'd out each time. I am very aware that the materialism and privilege I enjoy (even as a homeless and jobless community organizer) are at the foundation, the very core, of my not getting arrested, of my not advancing my own struggle towards liberation and solidarity. As I thought about past SOAW protests, I was flooded by images of my elders getting arrested and taking risks that should be my own. I became enraged with myself for allowing my elders to do 'my work'. I mean, these folks should be kick'n me down knowledge, advising my journey through the wisdom of their mistakes while simultaneously trusting the ever changing dynamics of innovative youth, but instead are left like single mothers to perform and master all roles within the movement. This is not to denounce or minimize the college kids organizing nor to say that old folks shouldn't get arrested, rather this is a call to myself and young people everywhere, particularly those of us from the slums, ghettos, and projects of this country, to STAND UP. It's evident that the system don't give a fuck about us, but the real question is do we give a fuck about each other? It is here in this space that I made the decision to get arrested and accept the 3-6 months prison time that accompanies the civil disobedience. Getting arrested is not the climatic point of my involvement in struggle, rather the birthplace of a new phase of activism and resistance...

To my slum livin young people search'n for meaning in a society that isolates and oppresses us, I call upon your critique, your lived experience, and your participation in the struggle. No longer should we allow others to speak for us, it is indeed time we spoke and organized for ourselves. Oppression has left us with a sickness that disrupts and perverts our capacity to love and resist and we have an undeniable responsibility to ourselves and each other to decolonize our minds and rebuild our communities."



anonymous photo/twincities.indymedia.org

Macalester College students blockade the Army-Navy recruiting station near the Minneapolis campus, March 27, 2008.

## MINNEAPOLIS

The University of Minnesota SDS rallied against the war and marched around campus on March 27. Sixteen people, including two juveniles, were arrested for trespass when they occupied the Army National Guard recruiting office on Washington Avenue. They were released that afternoon. Across the street, ten Macalester College SDS students locked themselves to the doors and each other to shut down the Army and Navy recruiting offices for more than seven hours as supporters and counter-protesters gathered.

## TUSCALOOSA

The lunch hour recreation of a loud and abusive scene from the Iraq war led to the arrest of four people at the University of Alabama on February 29. Iraq Veteran Against the War Jason Hurd was scheduled to speak that night on campus, and the street theater confrontation and

arrest of "detainees" in Islamic style clothing by "soldiers" in camo fatigues who burst into the student center was planned to promote the event. Employees of the center were alerted in advance to the mock raid, and "soldier" Hurd and a few others stayed around afterwards to explain for the crowd the scene they had just enacted. Such events are common in Iraq, they explained, and potential enlistees should consider if this is the kind of thing they want to be doing.

Campus administrators were not entertained, however, and police soon arrested Hurd and three Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) activists - Alyse Deller and Christine Jackson from the University of Alabama and Jeremy Miller, UNC/Asheville. They were charged with disorderly conduct for what the Dean of Students later wrote was "extremely irresponsible behavior" that "mimics a true emergency on our campus."

The speaking event was canceled as the four were detained for four hours on campus, then sent to jail until bail was posted later. Hurd and Miller were also charged with trespassing and banned from campus property.

# 25 Years of Civil Resistance to Nuclear Missile Tests

This year marks the 25th anniversary of civil resistance to intercontinental ballistic missile testing at Vandenberg Air Force Base. In 1983, a series of front gate and back-country actions resulted in hundreds of activists behind bars and challenging the legal system with jail solidarity on a mass scale. As the government tried to rein in direct action proponents among the growing disarmament movement, 30 men who had refused to identify themselves were flown from California to a federal prison in Florence, Arizona.

To mark the anniversary, the Catholic Worker community in nearby Guadalupe hosted the revitalized Pacific Life Community in Santa Barbara, California for its second annual gathering. The weekend retreat concluded on March 2 with a public rally in Vandenberg Village and a procession and line-crossing at Vandenberg's main gate a few miles away, organized and attended by a variety of activist groups and individuals. Bruce Gagnon of the Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space spoke to the 150 people at the rally about the vision for global domination from space that the Pentagon is pursuing, with Vandenberg as a key component.

Later at the gate, demonstrators listened quietly as Dennis Apel, a Guadalupe Catholic Worker facing federal trespass charges with four others for demonstrating at Vandenberg last May, implored the airmen within range of his megaphone to leave their post and refuse to participate in war. He promised material support for the family of anyone choosing to cross the green line painted down the middle of the crosswalk.

Silence was the response.

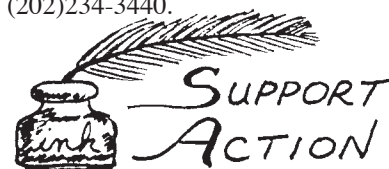
Another demonstrator upped the offer. "We have beer."

More silence.

Apel acknowledged that it might be difficult to leave right then, in public, in front of the people they work with every day. He announced his home phone number, and the G.I. Rights Hotline (800-394-9544). "Call anytime," he assured whoever was listening.

When still there was no reply, Apel announced, "We'll give you some of our finest, who are willing to cross the line."

Larry Purcell, Ed Ehmke and Mary Jane Parrine, arms linked, then walked together across the road and over the green line. They were handcuffed, taken into custody and released several hours later, charged with trespass.



Letters of support should be individually addressed to the ten defendants by their legal name and sent to them at their addresses listed in Inside & Out, page 3.

# Torture Foes Denied Bail, cont.

continued from page 2

Zawada arrived, Kelly was shipped out of the Central Arizona Detention Center and sent to another privately run federal prison in Taft, California. After refusing to work at the prison for reasons of conscience, Kelly spent the remainder of his sentence in disciplinary segregation. Vitale, who had been moved to a county jail in El Centro, California (under Bureau of Prisons contract) on November 1, also was in isolation for the majority of each day in his cell at the Imperial County Jail.

## DETENTION HEARING

At the December 6 detention hearing for Lamb and Zawada, Magistrate Estrada expressed concern about the evidence that both had ignored obligations in the other cases.

Captain Seamone described the defendants' peaceful passage through police barricades at the gate of Fort Huachuca as a violent act because it had to be met by police, who were forced to go face to face with the unarmed protesters and lift them from a kneeling position. In the eyes of the law and legal precedent, Seamone argued that such violent trespass warranted pretrial detention for the safety of the community. Were the court to release Zawada and Lamb, "their blatant defiance is likely to happen again" Seamone warned, gravely predicting that "all kinds of chaos" would ensue at the gate to Fort Huachuca.

Attorney Rachel Wilson, representing the defendants, objected repeatedly without success to Seamone's hyperbolic conclusions.

## Vermont's White Elephant Nuke

by Marcia Gagliardi

State and local police arrested six women of the Shut It Down affinity group on December 18 as they implored Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant officers to allow them to present safety concerns to the reactor's newly-appointed safety officer and a deputy.

Originally, the women arrived at what has consistently been designated Entergy headquarters on Old Ferry Road in Brattleboro and used a telephone in the vestibule to contact Entergy officials in order to deliver their list of concerns to the safety officers. They carried two oil-painted banners of white elephants representing the aging nuclear power plant with a pile of elephant dung labeled "nuclear waste."

An Entergy employee told them that executives' offices had moved from the Old Ferry Road site to the power plant.

When the women arrived at the power plant, the Vernon police chief and Entergy security guards and other officials barred them from the gate and asked them to leave. Instead, the women stayed put, and read their list of hazards aloud. They asked that the safety officers stop the emission of radiation from the facility, stop the flow of hot water from the plant into the Connecticut River, stop misleading advertising about nuclear energy, stop storing nuclear waste on the power plant site, and stop the transportation of hazardous nuclear waste from the plant through Vermont and Massachusetts and on public roadways. They asked the officials to shut down the dangerous power plant.

Julia Bonafine, Paki Wieland, Frances Crowe, Ellen Graves, Hattie Nestel and Marcia Gagliardi were arrested about a half hour later, booked at the Vernon police station, charged with unlawful trespass. The charges were later dismissed.

The Vermont Yankee nuclear reactor is scheduled for decommissioning in 2012. A series of accidents has undermined public confidence in the aging reactor. The collapse of a cooling tower was documented in several photographs that caused the Vermont Public Service Board and the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission to call for an independent safety assessment at the reactor.

Vermont and Massachusetts public officials, including United States senators and representatives in Congress, state legislators, mayors, selectboard members, attorneys general, and others, called for the safety review or, in some instances, to shut down the plant.

For more information, contact Marcia Gagliardi at haley.antique@verizon.net

The Chernobyl Day Nuclear Blockade story in our last issue incorrectly stated that the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant has been granted a 20-year extension on its operating license. An application has been made for the extension, but no decision has been made. Also, the accompanying photo should have been credited to Mary Ann Palmieri.

Estrada told the defendants he didn't trust them and that he believed they were right where they wanted to be - before him in chains. Protest is brinkmanship, and the point is to not be arrested; better to organize a conference or seminar, he chided.

Estrada then ordered that Lamb and Zawada be denied bail and kept in custody until their February 4 trial because they "remain a flight risk, and are a danger to the community."

It was Magistrate Estrada who in October sent Frs. Steve Kelly and Louie Vitale to prison for five months for their 2006 protest at Fort Huachuca.

## TRIAL

On February 4, 50 people held a rally outside the federal courthouse in downtown Tucson before packing the courtroom in support of the three anti-torture activists. Betsy Lamb and Jerry Zawada were brought into the courtroom in handcuffs by U.S. marshalls. The third defendant, Mary Burton Riseley, was weak with the flu

and came to court in a wheelchair.

A few days before, military prosecutor Capt. Evan Seamone and the defense's legal team - Bill Quigley, Dan Gregor, Rachel Wilson, Meredith Little and Andy Silverman - had agreed that the government would drop the conspiracy charge in return for the defendants stipulating to the facts describing their alleged crimes at Ft. Huachuca on November 18.

After the stipulations were entered into the record, Capt. Seamone asked that the court view a short video depicting the three as they entered the base and were arrested. "There is some profanity in the video," he warned, but "the soldier has been counseled."

The video began with a view of the defendants as they approached the gate, Zawada in his brown Franciscan robe. A loud male voice is heard saying, "I fuckin' knew it, man - that goddam priest shit." The remaining few minutes show the three moving past barricades only to

continued from page 8

## WRITINGS FROM JAIL

~from the Central Arizona  
Detention Center

January 19, 2008

From Part Two of  
*Reflection on Jeremia's Complaint*

During the arraignment and detention hearings on December 4th and 6th for Betsy Lamb, Mary Burton Riseley and me, Magistrate Estrada and prosecutor Seamone expressed the belief that we protesters "law breakers" have the goal to be incarcerated.

I don't know anyone in the peace movement who acts simply to be behind bars.

Our actions at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona and other places where torture and extreme interrogation methods are taught and acted upon, are to shine a light on the truth of where things are going in this country and to put a stop to the abuses committed in our name. We would have to be masochists to choose prisons and jails, where human rights are greatly compromised and where separation from family and friends creates more suffering.

Our actions, the risks we take are to bring home a message, so vital that if the pendulum of violence, torture, warfare, nuclear threat keeps going in the direction as currently it is, there will be no future to life on this planet.

## THE INSIDE LINE



Nonetheless, it is our hope to embrace the challenge of jail time with equanimity and joy; to be good companions to hundreds of other cell mates who most often don't have the blessing of loving support from dedicated friends who take just as important risks to put a stop to all that causes so much suffering and grieves the heart of God.

YOU are one of those people. Help us pray for wisdom during our trial on February 4th and for the thousands of others in the peace movement now facing or experiencing incarceration throughout the world. Each of us in our own way need to be part of this effort, at least for the sake of our children and those who follow in generations ahead.

[Fr. Jerry Zawada was jailed for two months pending trial February 4 for entering Ft. Huachuca, Arizona, to speak with military intelligence personnel about U.S. torture policy.]

## Algonquin Leader Jailed, cont.

continued from page 1

tions. The testimony given under oath by Robert Lovelace outlined Algonquin Law and the corresponding responsibilities of Algonquin people with respect to human activity in our territory. It was tossed aside by the judge and deemed to be of no relevance. The message delivered clearly through this court decision is one of domination and oppression; the law will enforce one set of values with respect to human relationships with the land in Ontario and there is no room for Algonquin laws or values."

Last June, Ardoch Algonquins began occupying one of several contested claims made by Frontenac Ventures, just north of Sharbot Lake. Two months later, the native government withdrew from negotiations with the court and Frontenac Ventures, who had staked the claim without consulting the Algonquins, because "that process will not have a positive impact on what is happening here" and "the inability of this case and judge to deal with the underlying issue of title and jurisdiction."

The goal of the occupation was spelled out in a letter to the community last August:

"This occupation needs to be maintained indefinitely until ... there is a moratorium on uranium mining in our territory and we have written confirmation from both Ontario and Canada that there will be no further issuances of land use permits, mining claims (including any registrations of mining claims), or other uses of our lands or waters, including the minerals, air and other things that corporate Canada sees as "resources" by any other users without consultation and consent by the community of Ardoch Algonquin First Nation..."

The occupation continued into October in defiance of the court order to allow Frontenac Ventures onto the site for exploratory drill core sampling. The Ontario provincial government then intervened and negotiations re-

sumed because the government initially agreed that a "no drilling" outcome was at least possible. That negotiation broke down in January when the government negotiator again insisted that any negotiated outcome must include some drilling.

On February 3, Lovelace issued a call to resume claim site surveillance and preparations to block survey trucks. Two weeks later, he was in jail.

Lovelace is not the only First Nation leader now in an Ontario jail for defying a court injunction that would allow mining exploration on their traditional lands. On March 17, five leaders and one member of the remote northwestern Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) First Nation were convicted and sentenced to six months in prison.

Chief Donny Morris, Council members Samuel McKay, Jack McKay, Darryl Sainnawap and Cecilia Begg, and community member Bruce Sakakeep are opposed to Platinex Mining Company's exploratory claims for platinum mines on KI lands around Big Trout Lake.

For more information, visit the web site of the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation, www.aafna.ca. For more information about the related case of the KI-6, visit kitchenuhmaykoosib.com.



Letters of support should be sent to Robert Lovelace, Central East Correctional Centre, 541 Hwy 36, Lindsay, Ontario K9V 4S6, Canada.

# RESISTANCE TO FIVE YEARS

continued from page 1

so many innocent people. I heard others also continuing to speak and get our message out as they were led through the Capitol building in handcuffs.”

Six of those arrested were released around midnight with citations for disruptive conduct and ordered to appear for arraignment the following day. Barfield, First, Letendre and Tetaz were all held overnight and finally brought to court at 7 p.m. the next evening. They were met there by the other six, and the case was the last item on the court’s docket that day. The government wanted to detain some of the veteran resisters, but the judge would not agree. All were released pending a status hearing on May 27. The “ghosts” will seek a jury trial.

Over the next several days, street protests abated to encourage media attention on Iraq Veterans Against the War’s Winter Soldier testimonies, underway March 13-16 at the National Labor College, in Silver Spring, Maryland.

On Wednesday morning, March 19, war protesters returned to the broad avenues of the nation’s Capitol. A March of the Dead - walkers in white masks - processed silently through the streets all day long. Other marchers on the National Mall carried inverted American flags and sardonic signs declaring that “The Endlessness Justifies the Meaninglessness.”

At the Internal Revenue Service, 32 people were arrested. “We wanted to put our bodies between the money and what the money goes to fund - the war, the occupation, the bombs,” said Frida Berrigan, of the War Resisters’ League.

For the rest of the day, D.C. police were disinclined to make arrests, no doubt stung by recent successful lawsuits over their false arrests during demonstrations. Protesters blocking one intersection were simply dragged to the sidewalk and bid a good day by police. At least 300 people took part in an unpermitted Funk the War party/march through the city, sponsored by Students for a Democratic Society, Campus Action Network and Student Peace Action Network. Police only arrested about 30 more late in the day during a street blockade about a block from the U.S. Capitol.

## NEW YORK CITY

Eight activists chained themselves to a set of revolving doors and a single side-entrance, barring entrance into the Third Avenue headquarters of L-3 Communications Corporation. Two dozen supporters cheered them on as police began to arrest the eight an hour later. One demonstrator’s shoulder was dislocated when officers forcibly loaded him into a police van. L-3 is involved in intelligence, surveillance, aerospace, and homeland security services, and has infamously supplied the government with interrogators and translators from Abu Ghraib to Guantanamo and CIA prisons around the world, where they have actively participated in torture.

## HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

On a cold and rainy March 19 in Hartford, Reclaiming the Prophetic Voice, a statewide interfaith network of religious leaders and people of faith, held a “Public Witness to the Destruction of War.” Two hundred people gathered on the steps of Center Church on Main Street, where AFSC’s “Cost of War” banners were displayed alongside boots representing the state’s soldiers who have died.

A brief interfaith prayer service was followed by a procession to the Federal Building, stopping along the way in front of the corporate headquarters of United Technologies, maker of the Sikorsky Black Hawk helicopters widely used in Iraq.

At the federal building, five people sat down in front of the doors. After three warnings, police moved in to arrest Keeley Colville, 17, her father Mark Colville, Rev. Kathleen McTigue, and octogenarians James Barron and Caroline Bridgman-Rees. The five were charged with disorderly conduct and trespassing. The two elders were released on their own recognizance, while the others were required to post bond.

## BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Police in Boston arrested five people who blocked access to a military recruiting center by lying on the sidewalk, dressed as slain Iraqi civilians, an Iraqi mourner, a slain U.S. soldier and an American citizen in mourning. The five were jailed overnight, and the next morning charged with disturbing the peace before being released to prepare for trial.

## PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Twenty-five people demonstrated in front of the Army National Guard recruiting office. Eight were arrested for disorderly conduct.

## HYANNIS, MASSACHUSETTS

Two dozen Cape Codders for Peace and Justice (CCPJ) rallied in the rain outside the office of Rep. William Delahunt on March 19, reading aloud the names of U.S. soldiers and Iraqi child victims of the war. In July, 2007, Rep. Delahunt and other Democrats had pledged to vote only for funding “to carry out a safe and orderly redeployment of our troops”. However, his November vote for \$50 billion in supplemental funding was contrary to this pledge. In December, CCPJ sent a letter asking Delahunt to promise a ‘No’ vote on any bill that included funding to extend the war in Iraq. He hadn’t yet responded, so several people from the vigil went inside and spent hours negotiating with his staff for the promise, adjourning at 9:30 p.m. They spent the night on the floor.

The next morning, conversations were held directly with Rep. Delahunt. He was unable to make a commitment. The group remained to bear witness to peace and respectfully asked for his reconsideration. At 3:30, another call came in from Delahunt. Hopeful that he had reconsidered his position, the call was actually to ask them to leave. The Congressman suggested to the peace advocates, “In the best American tradition, why don’t you take your protest out on the street?” Their response was, “In the best American tradition, we will bear witness to peace right here in this office. The funding for the war needs to end now and we call upon you to vote not to extend war funding.” Police were called in and arrested Sarah Thacher, Paul Rifkin, Mike Risch, and Diane Turco.

## WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

from Pieandcoffee.org:...at the federal courthouse in Worcester [Massachusetts, on March 19], after attending mass and with about a dozen supporters outside, Mike Benedetti, Ken Hannaford-Ricardi, Sandra McSweeney, Scott Schaeffer-Duffy and Roger Stanley entered the pre-lobby, knelt, prayed for an end to the war in Iraq, and said a rosary. People came and went from the courthouse, though additional participants weren’t allowed to enter. Officers allowed them to complete the prayers, then arrested them. They were charged in federal court with the “petty offenses” of not obeying a federal officer and blocking an entrance. They all pled “not guilty” and said they would represent themselves. Trial is set for June.

The prayers and arrest came as the culmination of a 43-day Lenten prayer, fast, and vigil carried out in conjunction with people in 11 other U.S. cities. This campaign was inspired by the example of Franz Jagerstatter, the recently beatified Austrian Catholic who was executed [by the Nazis] for refusing to participate in an unjust war.

## CHICOPEE, MASSACHUSETTS

Eight people were arrested when they blocked a gate at Westover Air Reserve Base. The six women and two men are charged with disturbing the peace and obstructing traffic.

## BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

On March 18, Binghamton University students led an impromptu march from an anti-war rally on campus to a nearby recruiting station. They took over the eastbound lanes of the Vestal Parkway for half a mile as police maneuvered to create a buffer between the marchers and opposing traffic. As the march neared the recruiting station, a clash between one protester and police provoked a pepperspray assault on other students who came to his aide, and a melee erupted. Nine people were arrested including seven BU students, and each faces one or more charges including disorderly conduct, obstructing government administration and resisting arrest. Three students were held briefly on \$500 bail.

## SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The Syracuse Peace Council led about 200 protesters in a raucous street theater demonstration to four downtown sites representing pillars that support the war: the federal building, a military recruiting station, an interna-

tional bank (the Bank of America) and corporate media (the Syracuse Post-Standard). Following the demonstration, about 75 people re-created a war-torn Baghdad street scene with a die-in that blocked downtown’s main street for over an hour. Eventually 22 people ranging in age from 21 to 95 were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct.

## ATLANTA, GEORGIA

On Monday, March 17, ten Grandmothers for Peace in Atlanta tried to enlist in the Army in lieu of younger men and women. Supporters rallied outside a recruiting station while the ten engaged recruiters.

“I’ve lived a full life,” said Doris Benit, 80. “I want these young men to be able to do the same. We have nothing against these young people. We don’t want them to die.”

The recruiters soon were exasperated by the ineligible elders’ enlistment enthusiasm. They called the cops. Police arrived and announced “People have 10 seconds to get off the property... or else you’ll be arrested.”

A supporter reminded the officer, “We’re grandmothers - it takes us 10 seconds just to get our bones coordinated!” The ten were soon arrested for trespass and released later that day, pending prosecution.

## MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Twenty peace and justice activists spent several hours outside and inside the office of war supporter Sen. Bob Corker on March 19. They called on Corker to host a town meeting in Memphis on the subject of the war. Corker refused, and seven people refused to leave his office. Peter Gathje, Jacob Flowers, George Grider, Dennis Paden, Ceylon Mooney, Kathleen Kruczek, and Jessica Buttimore were arrested for trespass.

## CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

March 20 was a day of creative actions against the war following a large march through downtown on the 19th. At 8:30 a.m., Gerald Paoli, John Volkening, Rev. Dan Dale and Sarah Shirk chained themselves to the entrance of U.S. Congressman Rahm Emanuel’s office in Chicago, demanding that he “unchain us from this unjust and immoral war.” Ten squad cars and a police wagon obstructed traffic for half an hour, waiting for a bolt cutter to remove the four demonstrators.

At lunch time, Voices for Creative Nonviolence took a penny poll outside the federal building, offering passersby the opportunity to spend ten pennies as they would have their taxes spent among education, healthcare, the military, environmental issues, and housing. Later, seven people were arrested demonstrating for peace inside the federal building.

## MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

A downtown Milwaukee intersection was overrun at evening rush hour on March 20 by a few dozen youthful anti-war activists who toppled news stands, tipped dumpsters, and then moved on en masse for a few blocks with police in pursuit through the snarled traffic. Four people were arrested for disorderly conduct and held overnight, but then released with only a \$300 citation.

## MADISON, WISCONSIN

Nine people circled outside a military recruiting station at midday on March 19, and began reading aloud the names of U.S. and Iraqi war dead. Within a few minutes, a recruiter emerged to shoo them away, under threat of arrest. Instead, four of the group went inside and tried to engage the recruiters in conversation about the war. Recruiters were asked if they had seen any of the Winter Soldier testimony. When police arrived, three of the four inside still refused to leave. Joy First, Bonnie Block and David Nordstrom were cited for trespass and required to leave the property. The others were allowed to stay on the private sidewalk in front of the recruiting station and continue the vigil for peace.

## GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Police kept a 500 person march mostly on the sidewalks through downtown Grand Rapids on the Saturday before the anniversary, arresting only two among many who strayed too often onto the street. Bail money was collected at the rally following the march, and the two arrestees were out of jail for dinner, charged with disorderly conduct.

# OF IRAQ OCCUPATION

## DES MOINES, IOWA

Ed Bloomer and Kirk Brown were charged with trespassing when they carried signs and a flag-draped mock coffin into the hallway of a Des Moines armed forces recruiting center on March 19.

## PORTLAND, OREGON

On March 19, a downtown anti-war demonstration of about 50 people was corralled by almost as many police on bikes and horses. Pepperspray was directed on demonstrators just trying to get out of the way. Shawn Biggers was arrested and charged with assaulting an officer, disorderly conduct and interfering with an officer after he allegedly kicked a policeman in the knee.

On March 20, over a thousand high school and middle school students walked out of class at midday to join an unpermitted anti-war march through the city. Two students were arrested during otherwise minor confrontations with police.

After several months off, Portland's Seriously Pissed Off Grannies were back at the Broadway Military Recruiting Center on March 23. Police arrested four of them for putting their red handprints on the windows.

## RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

In the San Francisco Bay area, a rejuvenated Direct Action to Stop the War alliance (DASW) joined with community activists to blockade a Chevron refinery in Richmond on March 15, and then promoted and trained activists for a day of decentralized, multiple-target direct action in downtown San Francisco on March 19.

The action to shut down the area's largest refinery for half the day began with a rally of 300 people and the message "Stop stealing Iraqi oil, and stop polluting our communities!" Chevron is lobbying for the privatization of Iraq's oil fields and wants to expand operations at the Richmond facility.

Richmond Mayor Gayle McLaughlin told the crowd, "It is time to clear the air and say no more pollution, no more war, and no more lies." The blockade of the refinery entrance resulted in 24 arrests for trespass. Three other citations were issued, two for climbing up a light pole to hang a banner, and one for using an amplified PA system without a permit.

## SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Decentralized demonstrations throughout the anniversary day and across the city led to at least 143 people under arrest. Bay area residents from all walks of life participated in nonviolent direct actions targeting corporations that are profiting from and government officials who are supporting the war. Many did not result in arrests.

Beginning at 7:30 a.m., students from five University of California campuses blockaded the U.C. Regents, who were meeting at the U.C. San Francisco campus. The Free the U.C. Coalition demanded an end to the U.C.'s management of the nation's nuclear weapons facilities, as well as increased funding for education and an end to the war. Ten students were arrested, charged with trespass, mischief, and resisting arrest, and then released.

Shortly after that blockade began, another group of protesters chained their necks to the Federal Reserve Building on Market Street, shutting the building down for an hour until arrests were made. They targeted the Reserve to highlight the financial interests behind the war in Iraq.

Also around 8 a.m., affinity groups successfully shut down the Chevron offices on California Street. Thirteen were arrested.

Several hours later at Kearney and Market Streets, 25 members of the DASW "War Machine Tour of Shame" were arrested during a die-in in the intersection.

At noon, the Iraq Moratorium led a die-in outside of Senator Diane Feinstein's office at Market and Mont-

gomery. About 60 people were arrested. Members of Act Against Torture staged a blockade in support of the die-in on Market Street. Twenty people, dressed in Guantanamo style orange jumpsuits, black hoods and chains, were arrested in their support blockade. More arrests were made through the afternoon as police worked to reopen Market Street.

Four women were also detained after hanging a large banner off the Golden Gate Bridge, and then released.

The anti-war related arrests during the day included at least five felonies, such as resisting arrest and carrying a concealed weapon. All but a couple of all those arrested were released within 24 hours, and the last two posted bail on March 21.

## RESISTING RECRUITING

Military recruiting centers continue to be a focus for public mobilization against the occupation of Iraq.

Among the many recruiting offices picked for protest, none had a higher profile recently than a new Marine recruiting office in Berkeley, California, a first for the ultra-liberal city. In January, after the city council passed a resolution declaring the recruiters were unwelcome intruders, the city's reputation as home of the Free Speech Movement came into question. The office became the immediate target of vocal, nearly nonstop protest.

The council eventually softened their official opposition, but in the meantime, recruiter boosters and boosers faced off daily at the site, and 11 arrests were reported.

At least 150 Berkeley High School students opposed to the recruiting office joined the fray on February 12. Some became involved in confrontations with Marine supporters, and police arrested two minors. Protesters followed as police took the young people to the station. Scores of students surrounded the door, demanding that the two minors be released. An 18-year-old woman was arrested after an officer told her to move away from the door and she allegedly slapped the man. She was charged with resisting arrest and battery of a police officer.

Two people were arrested outside the office on February 22. Police moved in to arrest one protester using a megaphone outside the area of the city-issued sound permit. Demonstrators surrounded two police cars, and when police reinforcements arrived, the megaphone user and another were arrested for resisting arrest.

On March 14, Pamela Bennet and Mari Blome sat-in at the Marine recruiting office. Police wrote them a citation for trespass, which they each signed but still refused to leave. Police took them to jail.

On March 17, four Code Pink women dressed in clothing that appeared to have blood on it went into the recruiting center, sat down and refused to leave.

"We've had enough of this senseless trail of blood and suffering," Code Pink founder Medea Benjamin said in a statement. "We'll mark this grim milestone by shutting down the recruiting station that symbolizes more death and destruction."

Those arrested were Benjamin, Suzanne Joi, Pamela Bennett and Mari T. Blome.

In Williston, Vermont last November 30, high school students and Iraq veterans led an "Out of Our Schools, Out of Iraq" protest to an Army recruiting office, only to find it closed for the day. The group moved on to a nearby Army National Guard recruiting office, and quickly occupied it. A sit-in ensued, and hours later police worked through a large crowd of supporters gathered outside to arrest 13 people. Three juveniles were released to their parents, and the other ten were taken to the sheriff's department and charged with trespass, then released.

On February 28, during a series of protests at a military recruiting office in Winona, Minnesota, John Heid and Becky Lambert blocked the doors and were charged with trespass. Heid refused to identify himself and was slapped with the additional charge of obstruction of legal process. At noon on March 26, Diane Leutgub-Munson and John Heid were cited for trespass at the recruiting office. Heid returned again in the afternoon and was charged with disorderly conduct and failure to obey a lawful order. Trials are all pending.

## Bringing Blackwater's War Home

The mercenary side of the war in Iraq was brought home to Currituck County, North Carolina on October 20, and Blackwater's corporate headquarters in Moyock. Protesters drove a small gray station wagon, covered with simulated bullet holes and smeared with red paint, onto Blackwater's property. One lay back in the driver's seat and five others got out and lay on the ground, as if they had been shot. The scene was intended to mimic that in Baghdad's Nisour Square, where an Iraqi doctor and her son died in a fusillade of gunfire as their car approached a Blackwater diplomatic convoy.

The protesters also smeared red hand prints on two Blackwater signs. Currituck County sheriff's deputies, called to the scene by Blackwater guards, told the protesters they were on private property and asked them to leave. When they didn't respond, they were handcuffed and placed in a sheriff's van. Some went limp and had to be dragged.

A crowd of about 50 more protesters who had gathered along the adjacent public road cheered as the seven were driven away. The group carried signs with slogans such as "Security Contractors are Unlawful Combatants" and "Blackwater: Shoot First, Ask No Questions."

The six re-enactors arrested were Steve Baggaly, Beth Brockman, Mark Colville, Peter DeMott, Laura Marks and Bill Streit. They were charged with second-degree trespassing, injury to real property and resisting arrest.

A seventh protester, Mary Grace, was arrested after the reenactment when she walked onto Blackwater's property and knelt on the pavement. She was charged with second-degree trespassing.

Bail was set at \$1,000 for five of the seven who were not North Carolina residents. A judge released them five days later on an unsecured bond, with a stern warning against another arrest.

At their first trial on December 5, Judge Edgar Barnes reacted to defendant Beth Brockman's comment on the irony of their potential jail sentences while Blackwater's mercenaries in Iraq seemed to be getting away with murder. Barnes cleared the courtroom of all spectators and reporters before proceeding to try and convict the six remaining defendants in closed court. All received a



Photo by Joe Fillipowski

suspended jail sentence and were fined \$100.

The convictions were appealed to Superior Court, where trial was held on January 5. This time in open court, the seven were again convicted. At their sentencing a few weeks later, a calm and respectful dialogue with the judge preceded his sentencing the five out-of-state defendants to the five days they served after their arrest, and the two North Carolina residents were sentenced to five days in jail, suspended. The defendants had told the court they would not pay any fines.

For more information, contact the Norfolk Catholic Worker, 1321 W. 38th St., Norfolk, VA, 23508, and Blackwater Watch at [www.blackwaterwatch.com](http://www.blackwaterwatch.com)

## WRITINGS FROM JAIL



# THE INSIDE LINE

~from the Currituck County  
Detention Facility

Dear Ones,

Well, I didn't expect to be writing from jail. We went, a wonderful community, to Blackwater to ask for, pray for, to demand accountability for their action in Iraq and elsewhere. Shelly's old Food not Bombs car, full of bullet holes and oozing blood, sat tragically still. Six kind friends fell dead and wounded from it, portraying only a fraction of the Massacre at Nisoor Square. I was moved by the Spirit to pray for the whole situation. I simply stepped over the imaginary line onto Blackwater property, knelt and began the rosary.

So, I was arrested and sit here, cold and uncomfortable, on a familiar hose-able iron bunk with its hard plastic pad (seemingly stuffed with newspaper), writing these words. The women already locked up in this rural jail welcomed me warmly with smiles and questions and an offer of forbidden, hidden snack. So this is home for how long? The five women with whom I share this row have already been here, some for months, before trials. They are building a little community here, missing their children and waiting with me, determined to hope, no matter the frustrations or discomfort or rage at the system.

I do wonder why I was arrested. Who is committing a crime? Erik Prince (Blackwater founder) is a "Christian," why didn't these guards kneel and pray with me? My taxes, and yours, are used to fund this mercenary army of Blackwater (one Blackwater recruiter has hired over 1,000 non-Americans, mercenaries by any

definition). Since my taxes are used, I am responsible. Shouldn't I have access (to) Blackwater to meet and hear their side of the story? My first question to Blackwater and the other private, military contractors is, "Is there any motivation for a company, which makes profit from war, to work for peace?"

I taught them, after we sang Amazing Grace the first night, Alleluia Anyhow, which they loved and made me repeat until they could sing along. Whenever anyone complained about the problems and bureaucracy and denigrating behavior they face, I would commiserate and end by saying, "the system sucks." By the end of my little five day stay, every time someone complained, the others would all chime in, "The System Sucks!" Great community. They would watch locked up TV news, and Montel, and when Blackwater (or our protest there) came one, they'd enthusiastically call to me to watch or listen. Every night we have read the bible and discussed it, sang songs and shared stories never shared with "just a prison minister." So I am humbled and honored to be with them. May their light, and yours, shine in the darkness.

Love,

Mary Grace

from *Joyful Dissent*, November/December 2007

[Mary Grace spent five days in jail for re-enacting the Nassour Square Massacre on Blackwater Corporation's front lawn.]

# WITNESS AGAINST TORTURE

On January 11, the sixth anniversary of the arrival of the first "enemy combatant" prisoners at Guantánamo, 400 people organized by Witness Against Torture marched to the U.S. Supreme Court demanding the shutdown of the U.S. prison at Guantánamo and justice for those detained there. At least 80 were dressed in orange jumpsuits and wore black hoods to represent the prisoners seeking justice. It was one of more than 80 such demonstrations around the world that day.

At the Supreme Court building, about three dozen mock prisoners went inside where a member of Witness Against Torture delivered a letter to the nine Supreme Court justices regarding two pending detainees' cases, *Al Odah v. United States* and *Boumediene v. Bush*, along with a writ of habeas corpus for each of the 275 current detainees. Other activists attempted to unfurl a banner inside the Court building but were prevented from doing so by police, who began arresting them and shut the front doors to the building. Another group then started reading the names of the Guantánamo prisoners. When they were stopped, they sat down and started chanting "Shut It Down!" prior to being arrested for "causing a harangue within the Supreme Court."

At about the same time, activists in jumpsuits knelt on the steps of the Court building and eight others unfurled a banner on the steps. They were charged with unlawful speech on Supreme Court grounds, for a total of 82 people arrested. Nearly all had left their ID behind, and gave only the name of a Guantanamo detainee as their identification. Many were held up to 30 hours before being called back to court, where the docket identified them by their adopted name. Forty-six pled not guilty and intend to return for trial, now set for May 27.

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

In Chicago, ten people, many dressed as Guantánamo detainees, were arrested after a brief protest in the lobby of the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse. Protesters called for the extra-legal prison to be closed, and also decried torture of suspects by Chicago police, recently in the news. Nine were charged with disorderly conduct, and one with trespass. All were released after about 90 minutes in custody.

## Torture Foes Jailed, cont.

continued from page 5

be immediately stopped by MPs, whereupon each knelt down, offering their flyer to the soldiers. The image was in marked contrast to Capt. Seamone's characterization of the event during the December detention hearing as a violent act that threatened "all kinds of chaos."

After taking a recess to read the stipulation of facts, Magistrate Judge Jacqueline Marshall found Zawada, Lamb and Riseley guilty of the charges of trespass and failure to obey an officer.

Marshall then asked Capt. Seamone for his thoughts about sentencing. Seamone began to explain why more prison time would be an appropriate deterrent for each defendant.

Marshall responded that such a sentence would not be a deterrent to any of them because their "very reason for action was deprivation of liberty." The magistrate suggested that a large fine would be more of a deterrent, and might begin to repay the government's expense of prosecution. She told Seamone that his approach would only serve the cause of the defendants.

The defendants then made very moving and eloquent pre-sentencing statements, in the process putting torture on trial. The three spoke from their hearts about their backgrounds and their motivations to act against torture.

Riseley spoke first, as the daughter of a Marine Corps general and as a Quaker seeking truth. She described the meeting she, Zawada and Meredith Little had had with an officer at Ft. Huachuca just days before her arrest. She agreed that torture may not be currently taught there, but because of widespread, documented incidents of torture in the war zone, she concluded the training is clearly inadequate to prevent it from occurring. She had entered the base to share this concern, and warn the military intelligence trainees.

The court invited Seamone to cross-examine Riseley - an unusual pre-sentencing procedure. In this case, it was a losing proposition for the prosecutor, as Riseley's certainty of purpose and calm, non-judgmental demeanor

provided no foundation for the image that Seamone tried to paint of a disruptive presence afflicting the Army post.

Betsy Lamb began her statement by apologizing for appearing cold and tired.

The judge soon learned that she and Zawada had spent most of the night prior to the trial in separate, cold holding cells at the Central Arizona Detention Center with no cot, no blanket, no sweatshirt or jacket. Marshall asked both of them more questions about the conditions. Zawada told her that the men's holding cell was so crowded with 30 other men that he was compelled to stand throughout the night and hadn't gotten any sleep. In addition, he had not been allowed to bring any legal papers or his sentencing statement with him to court. Magistrate Marshall seemed troubled by the information. She thanked them, and told them she would look into the matter.

Lamb reflected on the reality and devastating impact of torture, for the torturer as well as the victim, and the imperative to act against such a policy. When she suggested that it wasn't the three of them who should be on trial, but that the judge instead should put the government on trial, Judge Marshall asked, "and how would I do that?" Betsy replied that it was a question each of us has to ask ourselves. "You know better than I what you could do as a judge, but maybe giving us reduced sentences would send a message..."

Seamone passed on the opportunity to cross-examine Lamb. "Wise man," the judge observed.

Lacking his prepared notes, Zawada spoke quietly and compellingly of being in Baghdad before, during, and after the initial "Shock and Awe" bombardment. He spoke of the suffering of the Iraqi people after 12 years of severe trade sanctions, and of the poor soldiers he has met, who end up in a hellish situation, experience hellish things, and then return home and have to live with it. He lamented that our country had lost its soul. Capt. Seamone again tried cross-examination, often only to agree with the response of the elder priest.

Zawada told the judge that in all honesty he could not promise not to break any laws if he felt a situation was so urgent that his conscience called him to do otherwise.

Bill Quigley suggested a sentence of time served for all of the defendants. For context, he told the court about the one to three month prison terms imposed the week before on eleven people arrested for trespass at Fort Benning, Georgia on the same day as the Fort Huachuca defendants. Quigley also informed the court of a sentence recently served by a soldier convicted of the negligent homicide of an Iraqi general during interrogation: two months confinement to base. He asked what message would be received when those who protest torture nonviolently are punished more severely than someone guilty of homicide during interrogation. Quigley pointed out that sentencing is when the court has an obligation to bring the application of law ever closer to the ideal of justice.

Judge Marshall then imposed the same sentence on each of the three: two years of supervised probation, and a \$5000 fine or 500 hours of community service. She told the defendants that they could do their community service by participating in demonstrations, handing out leaflets and other legal forms of protest. She also advised them that they could ask for an early end to their probation as soon as they either paid the fine or completed their community service, whichever they chose to do.

Supporters left the sixth floor courtroom to the sight of a brilliant full rainbow outside the large courthouse windows. Soon after, Lamb and Zawada were released from custody.

On March 14, Louie Vitale and Steve Kelly were released after five months of imprisonment. On Palm Sunday, March 16, they returned briefly to Sierra Vista, joining a couple of dozen Arizona supporters across from the main gate of Ft. Huachuca. The group held signs and banners which said "No to Torture" and "Interrogators: Honor Geneva, Refuse to Serve at Guantanamo".

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



# holy week

## CHICAGO

(From a report by Chris Geovanis/Chicago Indymedia)

Six members of the anti-war group "Catholic School-girls Against The War" staged a dramatic die-in during the 11 a.m. Easter mass at Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago's most prominent Catholic parish - and the home of one of the nation's most conservative church leaders, Cardinal Francis George. The protesters also denounced Cardinal George's January 7 meeting with Mayor Daley and President Bush, adding to public criticism of both leaders for failing to publicly raise the issue of the war and the need to end it during the presidential visit to Chicago. (That official visit was capped by the arrest of four people who tried in vain to stop the departing motorcade with a large neon-green "No to War and Occupation - Troops Home Now!" banner.)

The activists chose Holy Name as a way to ratchet up a sense of urgency about the war with the Cardinal and many of the city's elite among the well publicized and attended Easter services there.

The group of young men and women, dressed in their Easter best, sat through the 11 a.m. mass until George reached the homily. The cleric had just uttered the words, "Often, we hear people say 'love is blind,'" when the protesters rose from their seats to address him and the hundreds of parishioners in the auditorium.

"The sixth commandment says 'Thou shall not kill,'" said one protester. "Yet more than a million Iraqis have been killed since the invasion of Iraq," said a second. Parishioners audibly gasped and murmured.

Ushers rushed around the protesters, who then squirted themselves with stage blood and collapsed to the floor in the aisle. Some stage blood spattered on worshippers in the vicinity.

The protesters voluntarily got to their feet at the ushers' urging and walked out of the auditorium, chanting "Even the Pope calls for peace!" "And so should we all call for peace," said George from the altar as the last protester was led out.

The Cardinal continued, "Peace, is of course, the salutation that the risen Lord brings to those whom he has called to witness to Him. Peace, I give you, because they were afraid, and therefore they need to be gifted peace."

"They were afraid, first of all, of Him, because they didn't recognize him at first. But, they were afraid also, as we all are, of our sinfulness and of the enormous difficulties that are incumbent upon working for peace in the world in different ways in which people see the need to work for peace."

"In that witness, I think we can be grateful to those who interrupted this holiday."

The protesters were arrested outside by Chicago police and taken to jail. The six peace activists - Angela Haban, Regan Maher, Mercedes Phinaih, Ephran Ramirez, Jr., Donte D. Smith, and Ryane J. Ziemba - were arraigned on Monday on one count of felony criminal damage to property and two counts of simple battery. Bond was set from \$25,000-\$30,000 each. Supporters raised the money and all six were out of jail by Tuesday evening, March 25.

For more info, contact Kevin Clark at 312-259-4380, or solitaryleftist@aol.com.



photo by Marcus Page

Easter morning at the Nevada Test Site, 2008.

## NEVADA TEST SITE

Easter was observed with a morning liturgy and line crossing at the Nevada nuclear weapons test site, sponsored by the Nevada Desert Experience. Nineteen people were cited for trespass and released, including one man dressed as Jesus and carrying a large wooden cross. For more information, visit [nevadadesertexperience.org](http://nevadadesertexperience.org)

## LOCKHEED-MARTIN

In a blustery, cold wind that belied the second day of spring, people gathered again at Lockheed Martin in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania on March 21 as part of the continuing campaign of nonviolent resistance to the world's largest weapons corporation.

Over the past three decades of the Brandywine Peace Community, Good Friday has always been a day for non-violent resistance. The Christian activists believe that "to 'Embrace the Cross' is to resist the crucifixion in and of our times: war and the crosses of war - poverty, neglect of the human and the environment, profit at the expense of people, militarism."

In Brandywine's adapted reenactment of the Way of the Cross, after each station and reading, a cross with the Lockheed Martin logo at the crucifixion nail points and names of Iraq war dead in the center was carried into the crosswalk of the main driveway entrance to the Lockheed Martin complex. By the 12th and final station, 14 people with crosses stretched across the drive, along with one large cross and a coffin, draped in an Iraqi and U.S. flag. The 14 turned and carried the crosses and coffin towards the building, but were stopped and arrested for disorderly conduct when they refused to leave the property. They were taken to the police station and released, but are unlikely to face prosecution. For more information, contact the Brandywine Peace Community, P.O. Box 81, Swarthmore, PA 19081, 610-544-1818, [brandywine@juno.com](mailto:brandywine@juno.com), [www.brandywinepeace.com](http://www.brandywinepeace.com)

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

About 80 people gathered to reflect and act together for the Holy Week "Faith and Resistance" retreat in Washington, D.C., March 19-22. They asked themselves, "How do we live in the face of the terror the U.S. Empire inflicts on the world, and not as innocent bystanders - part of the silent crowd, watching Jesus carry the cross to crucifixion, not as passive spectators watching boxcars of people en route to the death camps or secret torture centers, not as unwitting accomplices to a foreign policy dominated by nuclear weapons as \$626.1 billion is spent on warmaking in 2007 alone...?"

Among those attending as part of their Alternative Spring Break were student groups from St. Johns University and the College of St. Benedict's in Minnesota, as well as from Loras College in Iowa. Jonah House, the Baltimore resistance community that cosponsored the retreat with the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker community of Washington, reports that the first action to emerge from the retreat was on Holy Thursday at the Navy League Arms Bazaar at the Marriott Hotel, where 150 weapons manufacturers were seeking to sell their new technologies for death dealing.

"...Some of us went into the hotel and spoke out with banners, leaflets, voices - all were escorted from the hotel and down the drive. Some unfurled their banners and made that walk very slowly. Others remained outside doing street theater on the theme of the cross as a symbol of domination and execution in the Roman Empire, just as nuclear weapons are symbols of domination and execution now. They also engaged in spirited leafletting of people going to and coming from the arms bazaar obscenity.

"On Friday, we gathered early in the morning and entered the Pentagon grounds in solemn, silent procession. Five people - Tim Fryett, Peter Pedemonti, Peter DeMott, Susan Crane and Steve Miller - sought to block the entrance and were quickly arrested; two others - Claire Grady and Eve Tetaz - knelt on the grass. Tetaz was dressed in sackcloth, remembering Rachel weeping for her children. All were charged with disobeying a lawful order and were released with a trial date of June 20.

"Two others were arrested, one as a result of a mistake, the other in solidarity so his brother would not be alone. They were also released and have court on June 20.

"On Saturday, at the White House, we read the names of Iraqi and American dead, as well as names of those in Guantanamo. Steve Baggally, Kristin Sadler, Bill Streit and Eve Tetaz were arrested for holding signs in front of the White House. They were released later in the day, pending a date in Federal Court in D.C."

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

## LIVERMORE

Hundreds of people demonstrated outside the Livermore nuclear weapons laboratory in California in the annual Good Friday disarmament protest. Organizers reported at least 91 arrests. While most people arrested at Livermore in recent years have simply been cited for the infraction of blocking traffic and released with no further prosecution, this year several were issued misdemeanor citations and court dates. For more information visit [trivalleycares.org](http://trivalleycares.org)

# Feast of the Holy Innocents

For Christians, the story of Jesus' birth and King Herod's infanticidal reaction, as told in the book of Matthew, gives meaning to anti-war actions in the days following Christmas. December 28 is marked in the Catholic liturgical calendar as the Feast of the Holy Innocents.

At least 70 people from the annual Holy Innocents Faith and Resistance retreat in **Washington, D.C.**, went to the Pentagon early that morning to remember the refugees of war as among the innocent victims of state crimes. Several people participated in a die-in. Sr. Margaret McKenna, Aaron Weiss, Tom Lewis, Marcus Melder, and Liz McAlister were arrested.

Two days later, the donkey from Baltimore's Jonah House community joined Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, fleeing Herod across Lafayette Park to set up a refugee tent in front of the White House. No sanctuary was given, however, as Patrick O'Neill and Eve Tetaz were arrested

and the donkey was given a ban and bar letter from the District of Columbia.

At **Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska**, the 28th annual Feast of the Holy Innocents retreat was attended by Catholic Workers from five midwest communities. They recalled that Herod in Jesus' day was backed up by legions of the Roman army, as the modern day Herods are backed by the United States global military presence and Offutt's nuclear and space commands. With more than a dozen supporters at hand, Dagmar Hoxsie and John Bach walked across the line, made a brief statement, and were arrested for trespass. They were released pending trial.

On April 2 they appeared before Federal Magistrate Judge Gossett in Omaha, Nebraska. Bach pled guilty and was given two years probation plus a \$100 fine. Hoxsie pled no contest, was found guilty, and given two years probation plus a \$200 fine.

Four members of British Catholic Worker communities were arrested on December 28, during a nonviolent peace witness at **Northwood Joint Forces Military Headquarters in Hertfordshire, England.**

Scott Albrecht, Sr. Susan Clarkson and Fr. Martin Newell poured red paint representing the blood of the victims of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq onto the Northwood Headquarters sign at the main entrance to the base. They then knelt down and prayed. They displayed placards saying "War shall cease all over the Earth" and "We all have blood on our hands."

Police arrived immediately and arrested the three on charges of criminal damage. Maria Albrecht was also arrested at the scene and her camera was confiscated by police. That evening, six police officers raided the Catholic Worker farm where the Albrecht's live before the four were released from custody at midnight.

# Honoring King's Legacy

## Trident/Bangor

The annual demonstration commemorating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the gates of Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor on January 19 was attended by 120 people. Most walked from the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action to the entrance of the base, where they vigiled near a large banner hung over the entrance declaring "Share the Dream of a World without War."

The Trident submarine base at Bangor is located 20 miles west of Seattle. It is the last active nuclear weapons depot on the West Coast and is the place of deployment for approximately 1,360 nuclear warheads. Another 1,000 warheads are stored on the base in inactive reserve. This gives Bangor the largest stockpile of nuclear warheads in the United States.

Six demonstrators entered the highway on federal property, walking arm-in-arm toward the base while singing "We Shall Overcome." At the same time, five others blocked the highway entrance to the Trident submarine base while holding a banner quoting Dr. King: "When scientific power outruns moral power, we end up with guided missiles and misguided men."

After the eleven were arrested by Naval Base security, six other demonstrators blocked the highway entrance to the base with a banner which stated "Abolish Nuclear Weapons." The six were arrested by Kitsap County sheriffs.

The eleven demonstrators arrested by Naval Base security were booked and released. One of them, Fr. Bill Bichsel, has prior federal protest convictions for trespass and was issued a federal citation for trespass.

The six demonstrators arrested by Kitsap County sheriffs were booked and later released in Port Orchard. These arrestees were told they may be charged with "attempted disorderly conduct."

For more information, contact the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, 16159 Clear Creek Road NW, Poulsbo, WA 98370, [www.gzcenter.org](http://www.gzcenter.org) or [info@gzcenter.org](mailto:info@gzcenter.org)

## Lockheed-Martin

Dr. King was also honored on January 21, the official holiday celebrating his birth, with a vigil and demonstration at the corporate headquarters of Lockheed-Martin in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Nine people were arrested,



cited for trespass and released. The Brandywine Peace Community's memorial litany concluded with a reader describing their blockade action, and the response of all, quoting Dr. King:

Reader: Today, we bring to Lockheed Martin a memorial to Dr. King and the struggle for justice and peace, a memorial of a coffin, chains, ashes, empty boots, and flowers, a memorial for all victims of war, and all the casualties of the economy of war - a LOCKHEED-VILLE of the war dead, the homeless, hungry, forgotten and forsaken who die the slow death of poverty, racism, sexism. We choose to walk in the memory and steps of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We honor Dr. King's philosophy of nonviolent direct action and his opposition to injustice and war. We re-affirm our commitment to resisting war in Iraq and the war-maker, Lockheed Martin. Our memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is that we will continue to nonviolently resist the injustice that is war, and the making of war that is Lockheed Martin.

Response (all)" ...I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits. I believe that what self-centered people have torn down other-centered can build up and that one day humanity will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive good will be proclaimed the rule of the land... and I still believe that We Shall Overcome..." (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 1964)

For more information, contact Brandywine Peace Community, POB 81, Swarthmore, PA, 19081, (610)544-1818, [www.brandywinepeace.com](http://www.brandywinepeace.com) or [brandywine@juno.com](mailto:brandywine@juno.com)

## MALLED IN MADISON

In a quest for seasonable venues to speak out against the Iraq war during winter in Wisconsin, a group of Madison activists have been making the rounds of area shopping malls, risking arrest on at least three occasions.

Their first stop was the East Towne Mall last November 2, where Madison Pledge of Resistance organized a protest by about 25 people. The names of U.S. soldiers and Iraqis killed in the carnage were read aloud.

While the names were being read, seven activists were moved to lie down on the floor in solidarity with those who have lost their lives as a result of our government's immoral and illegal policies in Iraq. Those lying on the floor were covered with a white shroud and a red rose was placed on top of each body.

Though the activists were exercising their First Amendment rights in a nonviolent action following the principles taught by Gandhi and King, the seven individuals lying on the floor were arrested within five minutes. Two cases were resolved before trial; the other five defendants appeared in Madison Municipal Court on January 25. Bonnie Block, Conor Murphy, Jean McElhaney, Jamie Haack and Joy First were found guilty of trespassing. They were each fined \$109 or 10 hours of community service.

About a dozen people then visited the West Towne Mall on December 21. Joy First writes,

"We unfurled our banners saying '3896 U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq', 'Over 655,000 Iraqis killed' and 'Stop the War Now'. A couple of people began slowly and loudly reading names of Iraqis and U.S. soldiers killed in the war, and a couple of people handed out leaflets. It was only about 5-10 minutes before the mall security and manager came over and told us we had to stop. We talked to them about why we were there and why we couldn't stop. We felt we had the right to be there and that we needed to get this message out. Doing this action at the mall is important as we juxtapose the suffering of the Iraqi people with the commercialism of the holiday season in the U.S. So, we continued our vigil and the mall security called the police. Bonnie, Susan and I laid down on the floor and were covered with the banners we had been holding. Someone laid a red rose on top of each shroud."

The demonstration continued for an hour until police arrived. When the seven people remaining refused to leave the mall, police told them they were under arrest and escorted them to police cars waiting in the parking lot. Then the lead officer declared "Okay, now I'm going to 'un-arrest' you. You got your message out and you are free to go."

On February 15, Bonnie Block, Janet Parker, and Joy First were arrested for trespass at the Hilldale Mall, where they staged another die-in much like the earlier two mall actions.

For more information, email Joy First at [jsfirst@tds.net](mailto:jsfirst@tds.net).

## In Iowa, it's SODaPOP

Voices for Creative Nonviolence staged a series of campaign office sit-ins in Iowa in late December and early January. Dubbed "SODaPOP" (for Seasons Of Discontent: A Presidential Occupation Project), the actions sought to give greater prominence in the January 3 presidential caucuses to the issue of the war in Iraq by challenging candidates to commit to quickly ending it.

On December 31, Robert Braam, Kathy Kelly and Mona Shaw were arrested for trespass inside the Des Moines campaign office of Republican Mike Huckabee. They sought to secure his commitment for an immediate end to the war, should he be elected, but were summarily dismissed. "There's a clear difference of opinion," a Huckabee spokesman confirmed.

On January 2, activists occupied the Des Moines offices of candidates Mitt Romney and Barack Obama, again calling on both men to commit to supporting an immediate end to the war in Iraq. Chris Gaunt, Ed Bloomer, Janice Sevre-Duszynska and Suzanne Sheridan were arrested for trespass at Romney's office, while Kathy Kelly, Dicki Andrews, Diane Haugesag, David Hovee, Tom Roddy, Dan Pearson, Brian Terrell and John Tuzcu were taken into custody at Obama's.

The twelve activists were jailed overnight. The next morning, the day of the caucuses, they pled guilty to misdemeanor trespass and were released. Other activists sat in outside Hillary Clinton's campaign office for most of the day because she had yet to respond to their demands, but no one was arrested.

## Interfaith Peace Witness in D.C.

by Ken Butigan

On March 7, people of faith and conscience launched the war's 5th anniversary period of remembrance and witness by taking part in the Olive Branch Interfaith Peace Partnership in Washington, D.C. Twelve hundred Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Unitarians, Christians and members of other faith communities prayed for an end to the war in noon religious services across the city, following a series of workshops and nonviolence trainings.

Then - as the heavens opened and unleashed a relentless downpour - we processed to Upper Senate Park for a powerful convocation of religious leaders from across the United States.

After the gathering in Upper Senate Park, we participated in a solemn procession to the Hart Senate Office Building, where we prayed for a concrete plan to end the war and create the conditions of a just and lasting peace.

Forty-two of us prayed by forming a circle in the atrium of the building. We sang softly, calling on the nation and its leaders to set a new course for peace. Eventually, we were arrested by the Capitol Police and held for several hours.

## Olympia Port Resistance

The latest series of protests against war equipment and supplies moving through the Port of Olympia, Washington, concluded after at least 66 arrests over several days, November 7-15. Two days later, November 17, more than 400 people rallied and marched against the war and in support of those facing prosecution.

This latest series of actions taken under the banner of Olympia Port Militarization Resistance was triggered when a supply ship docked, bringing Stryker combat vehicles and support equipment back from Iraq, destined for nearby Ft. Lewis. Demonstrators engaged in a variety of tactics to prevent movement of the equipment back to Ft. Lewis, including human blockades, barricades and minor sabotage of the railroad tracks. Police responded with generous quantities of pepper spray, pepper balls and brute force to clear away blockaders. In the midst of the actions, a Ft. Lewis soldier reportedly walked out of the Port to declare his own opposition to the war and refusal to transport the equipment.

# ANTI-WAR FLAG-BURNER FACING CHARGES

A retired public school teacher, high school coach and YMCA director goes on trial in May in western Massachusetts on multiple charges related to a series of flag-burnings last December. Anticipating his arrest a couple of days after Christmas, Doug Wight gave the local Daily Hampshire Gazette an extended interview, explaining that he burned at least three prominent public American flags and one private resident's stars and stripes because "he hoped his actions would inspire others to take a critical look at the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, which he says are illegal, and other policies of the Bush administration, like the USA Patriot Act, which he says violate the Constitution. These and other perceived abuses of power stretching back to the birth of the nation have degraded the American flag to a 'symbol of shame,'" the Gazette reported.

"I felt called, as a kind of duty and responsibility, to try and wake up the American people in any way I can without harming or hurting them," he told the Gazette. "If I have to go to jail and suffer to help put an end to these state-sponsored atrocities and abuses, so be it. Such is the price of true liberty."

The spree began December 7 when two of twelve large plastic flags - made in China - were burned on a Massachusetts Turnpike overpass. It included a flag lowered from a post office mast and torched in a dumpster, the theft of a flag from a residence, and finally, on December 21, a 5' x 9' flag that was burned as it hung from a large tree in the yard of a soldier's family.

Notes left at the scenes of these incidents were signed by the "American Patriot Liberation Front," somehow leading police to erroneously blame an "anarchist group." After the homeowner's flag was torched, Wight was arranging to turn himself in when police tracked him to a Northampton apartment and arrested him on December 27.

Wight was held overnight and initially charged with trespassing, burning a tree, and defacing personal property for the latest fire. At his hearing the next day, he was released on \$500 bond and had his driver's license confiscated to prevent flight from prosecution. Later, two more charges were added to the indictment.

Wight's driver's license was returned at a subsequent hearing on January 23, and later that day the flagless homeowner called police to report a suspicious package in his newspaper delivery box. Police found the package contained a new flag and a note of apology from Wight.

The conciliatory gesture only served to distress the homeowners, and Wight was subsequently charged with intimidation of a witness.

A lengthy article about the case by Keith Harmon Snow, including many quotes from Wight, can be found at [www.allthingspass.com](http://www.allthingspass.com)

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

### Vanunu Arrested Once Again

Mordechai Vanunu was again arrested and questioned on his way to Christmas Eve services in Bethlehem. Not leaving his city of residence without prior permission from authorities is one of several restrictions imposed by the Israeli government upon the conclusion of his 18 year prison sentence in April of 2004. A German tourist accompanying the nuclear whistleblower was also taken into custody and questioned for several hours.

Two weeks later, the day before his appeal was to be heard on a six-month jail sentence for violating post-release curbs on talking to foreigners, Vanunu was offered a sentence of community service instead. The action served

# Out of Prison!

## Jose Perez Gonzalez

On January 18, Jose Perez Gonzalez finished his five year prison sentence and is now free. Following the ecstatic 2003 community celebration of the departure of the Navy from weapons testing in Vieques, Puerto Rico, Perez Gonzalez was among a dozen local residents stalked by the FBI and eventually charged with conspiracy and destruction of government property. A fence and guard post had come down, and a few abandoned Navy vehicles were set ablaze during the May Day victory party. Perez Gonzalez received the longest sentence among the group upon conviction on four counts. The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign, an organization actively supporting other Puerto Rican political prisoners, is accepting contributions to help Perez Gonzalez pay a \$10,000 fine now due. Contributions should be made payable to IFCO/ProLibertad and write "Jose Perez Gonzalez Freedom Fund" in the memo section. Send to IFCO/ProLibertad, 418 W. 145th St., New York, NY 10031.

## Joseph Donato

(update adapted from *More Than A Paycheck*, December, 2000, newsletter of the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee)

Most of the convictions related to war tax resistance against three members of the Restored Israel of Yahweh, a small, unaffiliated Bible study based religious society in southern New Jersey, were tossed out on appeal at the end of October, 2007. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit overturned 12 convictions against Kevin McKee and Joseph Donato and sent those counts back for a new trial. The court also vacated two charges against Inge Donato (wife of Joseph), ruling that she be acquitted. A single conspiracy count against the three defendants was upheld. The convictions were invalidated on technical grounds. The court did not consider the defendant's religious objections to paying for war, although the opinion considers the necessity of strict care regarding First Amendment implications and guilt and innocence.

The three had been convicted by a jury in federal court in Camden, New Jersey, in December 2004 on charges of "conspiring to defraud the United States," attempted evasion of employment taxes, and failure to file personal income tax returns. McKee and Joseph Donato, who ran McKee-Donato Construction Company, were sentenced to 24 and 27 months, respectively. In particular they were singled out for failing to withhold and pay over the employment tax on the McKee-Donato employees who were fellow members of the Restored Israel of Yahweh, which has a long history of refusing to support war and military

to postpone the issues on appeal from consideration by the higher court.

The agreement was that Vanunu would serve the community in Palestinian East Jerusalem, but in fact, there are no recognized community service opportunities available in East Jerusalem, where he resides in internal exile.

A court hearing on the matter set for February 19 was postponed due to snow. It has been reset for May 13. For more information, visit [vanunu.com](http://vanunu.com)

*continued on page 12*

## FUTURE ACTIONS

### bangor

The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action will host their traditional Mothers' Day vigil and nonviolent direct action at the gates of Naval Base Kitsap/Bangor on Saturday, May 10. Gather at 8:30 a.m. at Kitsap Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4418 Perry Ave., Bremerton, Washington, for nonviolence training and action planning. Gather at 1:30 p.m. at Ground Zero, 16159 Clear Creek Rd. NW, Poulsbo for a procession to the submarine base. For more information, visit [www.gzcenter.org](http://www.gzcenter.org) or call Ground Zero at 360-297-2890. Mom says No Nukes! Abolish Trident! Create hope for the children!

taxes due to their religious beliefs. (They did withhold and pay on nonmember employees.)

Joseph Donato completed his sentence at a halfway house and was released from federal custody on January 31. McKee was released last fall, while occasional bookkeeper Inge Donato served six months in federal prison in 2005-06.

Despite the reversal on many counts, the opinion does not offer much in the way of broader implications for the legal consequences of tax resistance, except that it may prove discouraging to the prosecutors. Peter Goldberger, who represented the Donatos for the appeal, expects to ask the court to reconsider sentencing issues, and it is unclear if prosecutors will ask for a retrial of Kevin and Joseph on any of the counts.

With this reversal, the government apparently owes a refund to the defendants for fines and penalties that they paid after their convictions. In addition, there is the open question of how the government will respond if the defendants choose to continue to refuse to pay for war and not honor the court order to file and pay all delinquent taxes.

For more information, visit [nwtrcc.org](http://nwtrcc.org) and [rioy.org](http://rioy.org)

### Il Silvestre

People accused of membership in the Italian eco-anarchist action group Il Silvestre have been charged with a number of crimes, including the sabotage of electric power line pylons intended to import nuclear electricity. The prosecution faltered in its first attempt at prosecuting the nuclear sabotage case, and a hearing set for April 24 will begin the process again. Two of those indicted, Costantino Ragusa and Benedetta Galante, have been released from prison - Galante to supervised release and Ragusa to house arrest. A codefendant on the nuclear-related charges, Daniele Casalini, had been free pending trial, but was recently arrested on politically related bank robbery charges. She is now on remand for that case.

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## DISSENT

### Voices of Conscience

*Government Insiders Speak Out Against the War in Iraq*

**Colonel (Ret.) ANN WRIGHT**  
and **SUSAN DIXON**  
Foreword by **Daniel Ellsberg**

...*Dissent: Voices of Conscience - Government Insiders Speak Out Against the War in Iraq*, by Colonel (Ret.) Ann Wright and Susan Dixon (2008, Koa Books). During the run-up to war in Iraq, Wright resigned her State Department post in protest. Hers is one of dozens of stories brought together in this book about U.S. and allied government insiders (diplomats, FBI agents, national se-

curity specialists, Justice Department attorneys and more) who publicly spoke out, resigned or leaked documents, and active-duty military personnel who refused to deploy in protest of government actions they felt were illegal. Here are their stories, often in their own words, describing why they dissent. Since her own resignation, Wright has travelled tirelessly all across the country and abroad to protest the war and lend support to these dissidents and military refusers. She is currently excluded from visiting Canada because of her multiple anti-war arrests in Washington, D.C. (\$17.95 from www.koabooks.com. ISBN 978-0977333844, 296 pages)

...*Protesting Power - War, Resistance and Law*, by Prof. Francis A. Boyle. (2008, Rowman & Littlefield). Francis Boyle has written previous handbooks for civil resisters over the last 20+ years, and this new book is as insightful regarding proven methods of nonviolent civil resistance as it is inciteful for the contemporary movement opposing American military power run amok. University of Illinois Law Professor Boyle first instructs the reader in "The Right to Engage in Civil Resistance." He necessarily distinguishes that term from its notable cousin, "civil disobedience," because how the resister understands and speaks about any action that risks arrest determines the best legal defense based on international law, human rights and the U.S. Constitution. Chapter 2, "Defending Civil Resisters: Philosophy, Strategy and Tactics" is the distilled wisdom from the experience of Boyle and others, and well presented. It is essential reading for any lawyers who might represent civil resisters in court, as well as for potential defendants whether they represent themselves or not. Subsequent chapters provide legal briefs and selected trial transcripts from four major prosecutions where Boyle participated as an expert on behalf of civil resisters, plus his discussion of the lessons to be learned from these examples when preparing a defense in today's courtroom. (\$24.95 paper, ISBN 0-7425-3892-3, 256 pages)

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES, cont.

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### Pine Gap Convictions Thrown Out

Four Christians Against All Terrorism were convicted last June of violating special national security laws when they entered the Pine Gap satellite spy base in the Australian outback in December 2005. Bryan Law, Jim Dowling, Adele Goldie and Donna Mulhearn were fined \$3,250 but refused to pay.

Law compelled the government to take him into custody on February 12 to serve prison time instead. The next day, police also rounded up the other three defendants, who had just flown in to Darwin to be present for the upcoming appeal of their conviction. Goldie and Mulhearn served six and five days, respectively, in lieu of their portion of the fine.

On Friday, February 22, arguing before the Northern Territories Supreme Court, their appeals attorney, a former Federal Court judge, made the Defence Special Undertakings Act virtually unusable for defending Pine Gap's war crimes. The full bench of the Supreme Court ruled that the original trial judge erred in not allowing the activists to present evidence that Pine Gap, a major American outpost, was not "necessary for the defence of Australia" as described in the Act.

Law and Dowling, who had not initially joined the appeal, did so when it became evident they would be immediately released from prison as a consequence of the appeal. In overturning their conviction, the court forbid any new prosecution of the defendants.

the Nuclear

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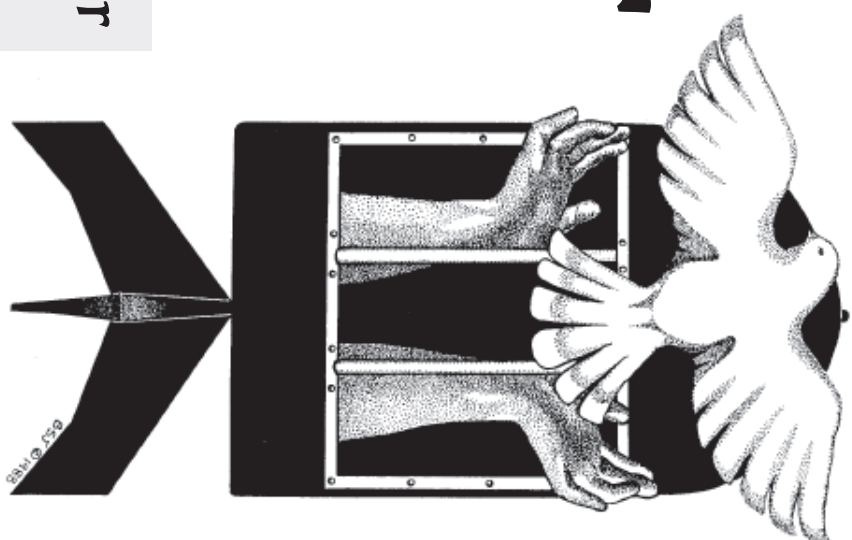
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