

OMNI NEWSLETTER: 2nd SPECIAL NUMBER ON NUCLEAR WAR
GENOCIDE and NUCLEAR POWER, January 8, 2008, OMNI Building a
Culture of PEACE, Seeking Truth and Taking Action Dick Bennett, Editor for Special
Issues. (See #1, June 14, 2007, Nuclear Newsletter.)

These materials are presented to enable us all to be informed activists regarding nuclear weapons particularly. Call or write your representatives. Write a letter to a newspaper and magazine. Organize a forum at your church or CAT.. Speak 5 minutes at CAT.

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Fayetteville office: 251-1380

Senator Mark Pryor: Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908

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NUCLEAR WAR

We cannot refer to nuclear bombs as weapons, as though their destructiveness is only one of degree with conventional bombs. A one megaton nuclear bomb is about 50 times more powerful than the bomb that produced more than 100,000 deaths in Hiroshima. A one megaton bomb would vaporize 6,000,000 New Yorkers if dropped over Times Square. It's a genocide bomb. But these realities should not cause despair. We can ban these bombs. We have the intelligence and the knowledge. We only have lacked the will. What could cause us to feel despair is silence, our own and the public's. Let each of us be leaders to end this danger. Let each of us give up one meaningless activity in our life, and focus that energy on changing our country's nuclear derangement.

UN CHARTER (a Treaty initiated by US and signed into US law)

Article 2(4): All members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations.

WHAT THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SAY

FROM THE NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION Below is an overview of an important new feature on the Foundation's website (www.wagingpeace.org), which provides information on the views of US Presidential candidates on issues of US nuclear policy. I hope that you will use this resource and let your friends know about it. US nuclear policy should be one of the most important issues, if not THE most important issue, in this campaign. US voters should not let another election go by without thoroughly understanding the positions of candidates on this critical issue for our common future.

David Krieger President Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
PMB 121, 1187 Coast Village Road, Suite 1, Santa Barbara, CA 93108



US Presidential Candidates Positions on US Nuclear Weapons Policy

One of the most important issues of the 2008 US Presidential election is US nuclear weapons policy. We believe it should be a priority issue when Americans go to the voting booth next year in primary and general elections. It's not our purpose to suggest how people should vote, but rather to educate and inform the public on where candidates stand.

To this end, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is pleased to announce the latest addition to our website. We feature [key quotes](#) made by the major Republican and Democratic candidates on five issues relating to US nuclear weapons policy:

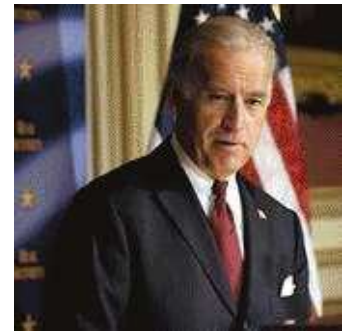
- ? Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty
- ? Disarmament
- ? Missile Defense
- ? New Nuclear Weapons / Reliable Replacement Warhead
- ? Use of Nuclear Weapons

[Click here](#) to view the Presidential Candidate quotes page.

Additionally, Foundation President David Krieger sent all candidates a survey asking their positions on several important points. Results of the survey are coming in. [Click here](#) to read what we have received so far. These pages will be updated often over the next 13 months as nuclear weapons issues continue to gain prominence in the presidential campaign. Please check in with us frequently at www.wagingpeace.org to see what else the candidates are saying.

We encourage you to forward this message to at least 5 friends so they too can discover where the candidates stand on an issue that affects each of us so deeply.

If you know of a quote that does not appear in our report that you think should be included, please [contact us](#).



[Read what the candidates have to say about US nuclear weapons policy](#)

Dems' Stances on Nevada Nuclear Site Contradicted by Records
<http://www.commondreams.org/archive/2007/11/13/5200/>

Nuclear Weapons: Candidates Debate Nuclear Policy

The Democratic candidates for president clashed over whether or not they would use nuclear weapons against other countries in last Sunday's Democratic Party debate. [Read what the candidates had to say](#). FCNL is currently compiling the major candidates' statements on the

issues of Iraq, Iran, and nuclear weapons.

FROM THE NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION ON NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

We encourage you to have a look at our new DVD, "Nuclear Weapons and the Human Future." You can [request a free copy](#) from the Foundation and show it to your friends. We think it is an important tool to raise the profile of the nuclear threat to humanity – a threat that is still very much with us.

We also have a great [Speakers Bureau](#) at the Foundation. Let us know if you'd like one of our staff or associates to come out and talk with your group about current nuclear dangers and what can be done about them.

Al Gore has referred to global warming as an "inconvenient truth." Unfortunately, that is not the only inconvenient truth the world is facing. The dangers of nuclear weapons stand toe-to-toe with global warming in their threat to humanity. Nuclear weapons, in fact, are an even more urgent threat. They could destroy civilization in the virtual blink of an eye.

As we witness the continuing turmoil in nuclear-armed Pakistan, the urgency of the threat should be clear. No one should feel comfortable with nuclear weapons in the hands of any state or leader, but least of all a state in disarray such as Pakistan.

The US "nuclear deal" with India, supplying India with nuclear materials and technology, will only exacerbate the dangers in South Asia, as Pakistan attempts to keep pace with India. The US must be dissuaded from this dangerous project, which could speed up the dismantling of the nuclear non-proliferation regime.

We badly need US leadership for a nuclear weapons-free world. That is becoming more than obvious. Early in 2007, George Shultz, Henry Kissinger, William Perry and Sam Nunn, four former high US officials, called for such leadership from the US. Some of the current presidential candidates are also calling for this leadership. Without US leadership, progress toward nuclear disarmament won't be made.

[TAKE ACTION] The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has prepared an [Appeal](#), "US Leadership for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World." It is aimed at the next President of the United States. Won't you add your voice and help spread the Appeal? It is available for signing on our www.wagingpeace.org website.

[Take Action >>](#)

[Tell a Friend >>](#)

[Unsubscribe >>](#)

*action***ALERT**

Hello Dick,

As the presidential candidates strive to stake out their positions on national security, one thing must be crystal clear: **The willingness to use nuclear weapons is not a measure of toughness** or pragmatism; it's immoral and reckless.

[Tell the 2008 presidential candidates we need a plan for a nuclear weapon-free world >>](#)

Using or *threatening* to use such weapons would only erode our security, not enhance it.

Debates between the candidates about when and under what circumstances they would consider using nuclear weapons ignore the critical reality of the twenty-first century: Nuclear weapons must never be used again.

We need a President who will make a nuclear weapon-free world a top priority of the next administration. [Sign today >>](#)

Thank you for your help in making peace and security a priority!

[Debates on nuclear weapons ignore one critical point: they must never be used again!](#)

[Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet. Sign the Petition >>](#)



Sincerely,
Breeana L.
Care2 Campaign Team

P.S. If you cannot see the links in this message, please go to:

<http://go.care2.com/e/tBRA/NnCA/oKXw>

Thank you for signing up to receive Action Alerts via ThePetitionSite or Care2 website. Your email address has not been bought from other sources. If you learned something interesting from this newsletter, please forward it to your friends, family and colleagues.

Care2.com, Inc.
275 Shoreline Drive, Suite 150
Redwood City, CA 94065
<http://www.care2.com>

Please call Senators, Reps, & Reid. NOW! Thanks.

Nuclear Loan Guarantees: How Could It Get Worse?

We are hearing that Senate-House appropriators are near agreement on a loan guarantee package that looks like this:

\$25 billion for nukes
\$10 billion for renewables
\$10 billion for coal to liquids
\$2 billion for uranium enrichment
\$2 billion for coal to gas

While the \$10 billion for renewables might be welcome, the package as a whole reflects misplaced priorities and a lost opportunity to address the climate crisis. Indeed, such an energy policy would make things far worse and make it much harder to reduce carbon emissions.

Throwing taxpayer money at wealthy utilities is not the way toward a sane, sustainable energy future.

***Please call your Senators and Representative today! No loan guarantees for nuclear power (nor coal)! Tell them to reject the entire omnibus appropriations bill if it includes such loan guarantees.**

Capitol Switchboard: 202-224-3121

***If you've already called them this week, or can make an additional call, then call Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and tell him to stand up to the polluting energy interests and not to allow such a parting gift to retiring Senator Pete Domenici and the outgoing Bush Administration.** Senator Reid's office is 202-224-3542.

If everyone receiving this message makes these calls, we can win this battle! (but please forward widely—and quickly—anyway)! And please act now.

Thanks for everything you do.

Michael Mariotte
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
nirsnet@nirs.org; www.nirs.org
301-270-6477

SUPPORT SENATE BILL 1914 To Shut Down President's Ability to Get Funding for New Nuclear Weapons, and to close down the Reliable Replacement

Warhead, a new type of hydrogen bomb. 1-800-828-0498.

[Global Security Update -- 09/2007](#)

3. **Senate Bill Demands Nuclear Weapons Policy Review** ... their senators urging them to co-sponsor S **1914**, the **Nuclear Policy and Posture Review Act of 2007**. ...

www.ucsus.org/global_security/securitynet/global-security-update-92007.html - 38k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[Remembering the dawn of the Nuclear Age : Opinion : Ventura County ...](#)

A full **Senate** vote on whether to fund new **nuclear weapons** should come up in ... issue: **Senate bill 1914**, the **Nuclear Policy and Posture Review Act of 2007**. ...

venturacountystar.com/news/2007/aug/05/remembering-dawn-nuclear-age/ - 35k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[GovTrack: S. 1914: Text of Legislation](#)

Introduced in **Senate**: This is the original text of the **bill** as it was written by ... (A) address the role and value of **nuclear weapons** in the current global ...

www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=s110-1914 - 16k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[PDF]

[HI, BELOW ARE TWO SAMPLE LETTERS. USE THE INFORMATION TO CRAFT ...](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - [View as HTML](#)

I want to commend you, in particular, for sponsoring a new **bill**, S.**1914**, ... The Livermore Lab should be converted from **nuclear weapons** to a civilian ...

www.trivalleycares.org/action/feinsteinletter.pdf - [Similar pages](#)

[DOC]

[STATEMENT ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS -- \(Senate ...](#)

File Format: Microsoft Word - [View as HTML](#)

S. **1914**. A **bill** to require a comprehensive **nuclear** posture review, and for other ... Let us take a close look at the status of our **nuclear weapons** arsenal. ...

www.psrmaine.org/documents/FeinsteinCollinsBill.doc - [Similar pages](#)

[OpenCongress - S.1914 - Nuclear Policy and Posture Review Act of 2007](#)

S.**1914 Nuclear Policy and Posture Review Act of 2007** on OpenCongress. ... If the President vetoes a **bill**, the House and **Senate** can over-ride his veto with a ...

www.opencongress.org/bill/110-s1914/show - 29k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[Nukes on a Blog: Obama, Hagel introduce non-proliferation bill](#)

"securing **nuclear weapons** and **weapons**-usable material at their source is the ... in the **Senate** recently. Among them is S.**1914**, a **bill** introduced by Sen. ...

nukesonablog.blogspot.com/2007/08/before-leaving-town-for-congressional.html - 82k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[ACTION ALERT CENTER](#)

Stop the Bush Administration's plan to build new **nuclear weapons**! ... has introduced S.**1914**, a **bill** which stops funding the RRW until a new **nuclear** policy ...

capwiz.com/wagingpeace/issues/alert/?alertid=10128026 - 33k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[The Sunflower - eNewsletter of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation ...](#)

A recent conference on "The Challenge of Abolishing **Nuclear Weapons**" brought ... The Kyl-Lieberman amendment to the **Senate** Defense Authorization **Bill** passed ...

www.wagingpeace.org/sunflower.php?issue=123 - 24k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

[ArmsControlWonk: RRW Gets \\$15 M in 6.2A Dough](#)

"Opening the door to a new **nuclear weapons** program is a course we should not ... to talk about S. **1914** The **Nuclear Policy and Posture Review Act of 2007**, ...

www.armscontrolwonk.com/1716/rrw-gets-15-m-in-62a-dough - 14k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

THE BOMB AND US POWER

Gerson, Joseph. *Empire and the Bomb: How the U.S. Uses Nuclear Weapons to Dominate the World*. At least 40 times since WWII, the U.S. has threatened to "go nuclear" to advance its geopolitical objectives.

Not only wars of aggression violate international treaties, but *threatening* aggression does also. But we peacemakers have road maps to a nuclear-free world and should be advancing our alternatives for a CULTURE OF PEACE.

NUCLEAR BOMB PLANS, CIA, AND IRAN

James Risen, *State of War*. Free Press, 2006. See *The Guardian* Jan. 5, 2006 for extract on CIA giving Iran bomb plans.

YOUTUBE **FILM** ON NUCLEAR AGE

Below is a link for a short film by Nuclear Age Foundation member Mary Becker on the News and Politics page of YouTube. The film, which won first prize at the 2006 Cannes online competition, provides a short history of the Nuclear Age and is well worth viewing.

http://www.youtube.com/categories_portal?c=25&e=1

David Krieger President, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation

MIDWEST CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR THREATS

"Is Iran the Real Nuclear Threat?" Marquette Univ., Milwaukee.

peace@peaceactionwi.org

GEORGE ON IRAN AND NUCLEAR WAR

I have no idea if you have given this any thought but it is a serious concern of mine.

Ever since dropping a nuclear weapon on Japan this weapon has been put away in the arsenal of many countries including many of our allies. To date these weapons have been used as a deterrent to aggressor nations who realize that we could easily wipe out any nation that attacked us. This defensive strategy was what kept us free from wars against our homeland.

G.W. Bush's switch to a offensive as a defense has surely made our allies as well as our enemies look toward us and wonder just what this country is doing. They could easily get the idea that our government is looking for world domination rather than peace. If these allies start siding with Russia, China, and India, we could see those countries build a war machine capable of overwhelming power to initiate a nuclear strike against us because they fear that we are preparing to move from the Middle East into their countries.

We could find ourselves being attacked with no alternative than to send every nuclear missile we have into the middle of Europe and the Far East.

George Bush would then feel complete because he would believe that Armageddon has arrived and he will be taken into heaven to spend eternity with Jesus Christ.

No, I am not crazy.... I am putting a huge puzzle together and I do not like what I see for this planet.

I feel like a lucky one... I have lived a long life and never had to live in a war torn country. I believe this could happen right here in the Good ole USA unless someone quickly finds a way to get Bush back to his Ranch with only animals to care for.

I was very happy to hear John Edwards speech today whereby he talked about the fact that this country Is NOT SAFER TODAY than 6 Years ago. This is 180 degrees form Hillary Clinton's claim that we are Safer today.

<http://firstread.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2007/09/07/350273.aspx>

Did We Miss the Lesson of Nagasaki?

Date: Tue, 14 Aug 2007 Did We Miss the Lesson of Nagasaki? By William D. Hartung 8-13-07

<http://hnn.us/articles/41781.html>

Mr. Hartung is the director of the Arms and Security Initiative at the New America Foundation. He writes frequently on nuclear non-proliferation and U.S. nuclear policy.

It has been 62 years since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but the moral and strategic lessons of those devastating acts have still not been

fully learned.

Despite the efforts of scientists like Leo Szilard and diplomats like John McCloy to promote alternative means for ending the war, the bombings went forward. There are still debates among historians and the public at large about the primary rationale for the use of the weapons. Some interpretations accept the official claim that it was done as a way of ending the war as soon as possible, on allied terms. Others note that the intention of the Roosevelt administration had always been to use the atom bomb once it had been developed, and that in this sense President Truman inherited a policy that already had considerable momentum behind it. Other historians suggest that the bombings were aimed at preventing the Soviet Union from entering the war in the Pacific theater.

- >It is possible that all of these factors were at work
- >to some degree, and they may constitute an explanation
- >- though not a moral justification - for the attack on
- >Hiroshima. But even if one accepts the rationales put
- >forward for the Hiroshima bombing, the use of a second
- >atomic weapon against Nagasaki just three days later
- >seems like an act of gratuitous cruelty on a monumental
- >scale.

>

- >We now know that Japanese leaders were still reeling
- >from the impact of the first bombing when the second
- >bomb struck. Debates over terms of surrender were
- >deadlocked, but a few more days' time - especially in
- >light of the Soviet Union's imminent entry into the war
- >- may well have produced an agreement acceptable to the
- >United States without the need to destroy Nagasaki. In
- >addition, the sheer destructive power of the Hiroshima
- >bombing -- killing tens of thousands of people
- >immediately while turning the city into a pile of
- >radioactive rubble -- should have raised qualms about
- >launching another strike in such short order.

>

- >The Nagasaki bombing went forward in any case and
- >subsequent efforts to curb the use of atomic energy for
- >military purposes failed. President Truman apparently
- >believed that the U.S. nuclear monopoly would last
- >indefinitely, telling Robert Oppenheimer that he
- >believed that the Soviets would "never" get the bomb.
- >Just a few years later he was proven wrong, and the
- >nuclear arms race was off and running. With so many
- >factors at play, it is by no means certain that U.S.
- >forbearance over Nagasaki would have changed this
- >tragic outcome, but it might have at least opened the
- >door to other possibilities.

>

- >Six decades later the United States remains the only
- >nation to have used nuclear arms as a weapon of war.
- >The absence of additional attacks has been driven in
- >part by the moral opprobrium attached to the use of
- >these weapons of mass terror, and in part by the fear

>of devastating retaliation by another nuclear power --
>particularly on the U.S.-Soviet front. But despite this
>record, the foundations of U.S. nuclear policy remain
>morally suspect. There has not been another Nagasaki,
>but it is U.S. policy to engage in veiled threats to
>launch just such an attack, even if the target nation
>does not possess nuclear weapons.

>

>The immorality of U.S. declaratory nuclear policy was
>made evident recently when Barack Obama asserted that
>"it would be a profound mistake to use nuclear weapons
>under any circumstance . . . involving civilians." This
>seemingly common sense statement was roundly criticized
>by rival presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and
>Christopher Dodd, who essentially argued that the
>nuclear option should never publicly be "taken off the
>table."

>

>Not only is the prospect of using nuclear weapons in
>circumstances in which civilians will be killed
>immoral, but the threat of doing so violates
>international law, as expressed in an historic 1995
>advisory opinion by the World Court.

>

>This policy is also counterproductive at the strategic
>level. The threat to use nuclear weapons against non-
>nuclear states is only liable to spur them to seek
>their own. Taking this stance toward Iran -- even if
>the actual use of the weapons is extremely unlikely --
>will undermine prospects for negotiations to curb
>Teheran's program while giving leverage to officials
>within Iran who want to go from nuclear enrichment to
>nuclear weapons.

>

>Short of getting a global agreement to abolish nuclear
>weapons -- a goal worth striving for no matter how
>difficult it may be to achieve in practice -- one of
>the most important steps the U.S. could take would be
>to adopt a policy of "no first use" of nuclear weapons
>against any nation that is not literally poised to
>launch a nuclear attack on the United States. This
>shift in U.S. policy would suggest that it is possible
>to reverse the mentality that led to the bombing of
>Nagasaki, even at this late date.

Success: Congress Stops New Bomb Plant

Four separate committees in two chambers of Congress have now zeroed out funding for the Bush administration's proposal to build a new nuclear weapons facility to be located in one of six states. FCNL worked with people like you around the country to oppose this new facility. But the administration remains committed to its plan to develop and build new nuclear weapons.

[Read more.](#)

U. S. ANTI-NUCLEAR ORGANIZATIONS

Council for a Livable World (DC)

Global Network Against Weapons in Space (Maine) Bruce Gagnon's org.

Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action (Poulsbo, WA) (year around year after year protests against the Trident submarines)

Nevada Desert Experience (Las Vegas), annual protest

Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS) (Takoma Park, MD)

The Nuclear Resister

Magazine, keeps up with political prisoners also

Nukewatch (Wisconsin), edited for many years by a noble couple

Nukewatch Quarterly

I am on the mailing list of all except CLW. We need more people in NWA to connect with these indispensable groups, to help them struggle against nuclear holocaust and to raise awareness and resistance here.

AFSC's work in North Korea: [Read and listen to an interview](#) with Randy Ireson who recently completed 9 years as the development assistance coordinator of AFSC's North Korea program.

JOIN THE NEVADA DESERT EXPERIENCE NEXT YEAR



Nevada Desert Experience

NDE Newsletter, Divine Strake Hearing, & more

August Desert Witness at Los Alamos

August 3-4, NDE will join Pax Christi New Mexico to vigil, pray and Witness For Peace in Los Alamos, New Mexico on the 62nd Anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima, Japan. ~ Friday, August 3rd ~ Santa Fe

New Mexico. *Taking a Stand for Peace* Catholic Mass at Santa Maria de la Paz Church, 4:00 p.m.

...an evening with Fr. Roy Bourgeois, founder of [School of the Americas Watch](#), 7:30 p.m. at El Museo Cultural

~ Saturday, August 4th ~ Nonviolence Training will be offered in Santa Fe

Santa Maria de la Paz Church, 9:00 a.m. - noon.

Walk, Pray & Vigil For Peace at Los Alamos, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

BRING PEACE & NUCLEAR ABOLITION BANNERS

[Download the PDF flyer](#) Visit the [Pax Christi New Mexico website](#) for more information

Reliable Replacement Warhead Funding

Congress is now deciding whether to fund the Reliable Replacement Warhead or not. This would arguably be re-launch the U.S. Nuclear Weapons program, creating 125 new nuclear weapons a year. The House has cut funding in the spending bill for this, but the [U.S. Senate](#) has yet to create a bill in Energy and Water

Appropriations that will cut all spending for new nuclear weapons. Speak out and ask your senators to create or support such a bill. Below are links to two organizations that have online campaigns for contacting your senator

[True Majority](#) / [Peace Action](#)

Fort Huachuca Torture Protest Trial Update

Fr. Louis Vitale, OFM, NDE co-founder, is currently awaiting trial for nonviolent prayer protest action at Fort Huachuca denouncing torture training and the Military Commission Act of 2006. [Read the latest update](#)

NDE's Desert Voices July 2007 Newsletter

Now Available Online in **Color**

Featuring: "We Won't be Fooled" April 1st rally at NTS Raises Diverse Voice for Peace Sacred Peace Walk Reflections Divine Strake Called Off - Where are We Now? Spring Events: Poetry and Photos

[Click to view the July 2007 issue of Desert Voices](#) (804kb PDF)

(Right-click and choose Save Target/Link As... to save the newsletter on your computer)

[Click to Download Acrobat Reader](#)

Nevada Desert Experience
1420 W. Barlett Avenue
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
(702) 646-4814

www.nevadadesertexperience.org

ANTI-NUCLEAR HERO DIES

This past week, Randy Forsberg died, at the age of 64, of cancer. She was the political-science researcher who in the early 1980s birthed the idea of the Nuclear Freeze and sparked the organizing that created a major mass movement for it.

Why do I count her death in part a seed of joy? Because it reminds us that when our community is open and ready, supersaturated with frustration and with yearning, one crystal dropped into the soup can transform it.

In June 1982, the largest political demonstration in American history - between 700,000 and a million people - gathered in New York City to demand that the US agree with the USSR to freeze -- halt -- all new production of nuclear weapons.

I remember that in the planning and scheduling of this gigantic rally, one whole city block of New York was assigned to Jewishly defined organizations. It was jammed with people, and our diversity was astonishing: from dour Old Left socialists to a contingent of Jewish Dykes - colorful and raucous irreligious lesbians - to groups of the feminist neo-Hassidic spiritual seekers who were calling ourselves "Jewish renewal." . We eyed each other with curiosity, amusement, and pleasure that we shared the city block.

There were so many of us that huge segments of the march never got to march at all - the streets were far too clogged.

The energy of the movement for a nuclear freeze brought The Shalom Center into being, as some wise Jewish communal leaders, rabbis, and philanthropists decided there should be a Jewish voice on the issues of the nuclear arms race. Our first effort was to convince the 1982 gathering of the General Assembly of Jewish federations and community funds - a solidly conservative, mainstream body -- to support the Freeze. They did.

The Freeze would have saved hundreds of billions of dollars by stopping nuclear production cold. It would not have been a military danger, since both superpowers held enough nukes to destroy not only the human race but to bring on a planetary "nuclear winter" that might have ended all life. The problem it WOULD have created was exactly that all the corporations involved in making nuclear weapons would have been frozen. And there's the rub.

So the Reagan Administration rejected the freeze, though Mikhail Gorbachev, head of the USSR, strongly supported it. Reagan chose instead to outspend the Soviet Union - speeding up the decline of America's infrastructure in health and education, but driving the USSR into collapse and disintegration.



Issue #126 - January 2008

The Sunflower is a monthly e-newsletter providing educational information on nuclear weapons abolition and other issues relating to global security. Help us spread the word and forward this to a friend.

Visit www.wagingpeace.org/donate to help sustain this valuable resource by making a donation.

To receive our free monthly e-newsletter subscribe at www.wagingpeace.org/subscribe

? **Perspectives**

- o Japan's Role in Building Peace in the Nuclear Age by David Krieger
- o Research Shows that War Isn't Caused by Instinct by Bill Wickersham
- o Our Troops Must Leave Iraq by Walter Cronkite and David

Krieger

- ? **Nuclear Proliferation**
 - o Iran Intelligence Report Shows No Nuclear Weapons Program
- ? **Nuclear Insanity**
 - o Video of Sleeping Guards Shakes Nuclear Industry
- ? **Nuclear Labs**
 - o Funding for New Nuclear Weapons Scratched
 - o UC Pays \$2.8 Million Fine for Poor Nuclear Weapons Management
- ? **Missile Defense**
 - o Czechs Oppose US Missile Defense Plans
- ? **Nuclear Energy and Waste**
 - o Environmental Impacts of Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Transportation and Storage
- ? **Resources**
 - o Is Nuclear Power the Answer to Global Warming?
 - o UK's Trident: The Deal Isn't Done
- ? **Foundation Activities**
 - o NAPF Launches an Appeal to the Next US President
 - o Peace Educator Colman McCarthy to Speak at 7th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture
 - o Primary Season Begins; Where Do Candidates Stand on Nuclear Policy?
 - o Foundation's Free DVD Spreading Across the World
- ? **Quotes**

Perspectives

Japan's Role in Building Peace in the Nuclear Age

by David Krieger

One of the key formative events in my own life, placing me on the path to work for peace and a nuclear weapons-free world, was an early visit at the age of 21 to the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Memorial Museums. At these museums, I learned a lesson that was not part of my education in the United States. In the US, we were taught the perspective of those *above* the bombs. It was a story of scientific and technological triumph, a story of victors with little reference to loss of life and the suffering of the victims. At the Peace Memorial Museums in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it was a human story, a tragedy of massive death and destruction. It was a story told from the perspective of those *beneath* the bombs, and a warning about our common future: *we must eliminate these weapons before they eliminate us*.

To read the full article, visit: www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/12/20_krieger_japan_peace.php.

Research Shows that War Isn't Caused by Instinct

by Bill Wickersham

When writing or speaking on issues of war and peace, it is not unusual for pundits and others to make the case that war is due primarily to a human instinct that causes nation-states to engage in large scale warfare. Underlying that idea is the notion that human beings have pugnacious inner drives that require an outlet for aggressive behavior if they are to achieve their full potential in a highly competitive world in which people have to dominate others to guarantee their own survival. This theory is often linked to the psychologically and physiologically induced fight-flight reaction process, which provides the necessary adrenaline rush when we

are aggressively confronted or personally attacked and enables us to stand and fight or, alternatively, to quickly flee the scene. Conventional wisdom often cites this reaction as the underlying cause for the violent, deadly, large group activity called war.

To read the full article, visit: www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/12/27_wickersham_war_instinct.php.

Our Troops Must Leave Iraq

by Walter Cronkite and David Krieger

The American people no longer support the war in Iraq. The war is being carried on by a stubborn president who, like Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon during the Vietnam War, does not want to lose. But from the beginning this has been an ill-considered and poorly prosecuted war that, like the Vietnam War, has diminished respect for America. We believe Mr. Bush would like to drag the war on long enough to hand it off to another president.

To read the full article, visit: www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2007/12/05_krieger_cronkite_iraq.php.

Nuclear Proliferation

Iran Intelligence Report Shows No Nuclear Weapons Program

On December 3rd, American intelligence agencies released a report stating that Iran had stopped its nuclear weapons program in 2003.

This new National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) contradicts a similar report two years ago that Iran was working towards building a nuclear bomb. It states that Iran most likely wants to keep its options open, but that the agencies “do not know whether it currently intends to develop nuclear weapons.”

This report was released as Iran continues to enrich uranium for what Tehran calls “civilian purposes.” The new NIE states that Iran still has the capacity to produce a nuclear weapon by sometime in the middle of the next decade. However, their program to transform material into a nuclear bomb has been halted since 2003.

This revelation has come after years of aggressive posturing by US officials. It is not known how long US Intelligence services have known that the program has been halted.

The NIE states that Iran’s “decisions are guided by a cost-benefit approach rather than a rush to a weapon irrespective of the political, economic and military costs.”

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said that the NIE was “directly challenging some of this administration’s alarming rhetoric about the threat posed by Iran.” He said he hoped the administration “appropriately adjusts its rhetoric and policy,” and called for a “a diplomatic surge necessary to effectively address the challenges posed by Iran.”

Mazzetti, Mark, “US Says Iran Ended Atomic Arms Work,” *New York Times*, December 3, 2007.

Nuclear Insanity

Video of Sleeping Guards Shakes Nuclear Industry

A former nuclear power plant security guard, Kerry Beal, has blown the whistle on fellow Wackenhut security guards at the Peach Bottom nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania, who were taking regular naps on the job.

After getting no support for his claims from Wackenhut supervisors or the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Beal videotaped the sleeping guards and released the tape to WCBS, a New York City television station.

Exelon, the largest provider of nuclear power in the US and the owner of the Peach Bottom nuclear power plant, fired Wackenhut, which had guarded each of Exelon's 10 nuclear plants.

Wackenhut still guards 21 commercial nuclear sites in the US owned by other firms, as well as the government's Y-12 complex at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, where nuclear weapons and materials are stored and maintained.

Mufson, Steven, "Video of Sleeping Guards Shakes Nuclear Industry," *Washington Post*, January 4, 2008.

Nuclear Labs

Funding for New Nuclear Weapons Scratched

Last month, Congress eliminated funding for production of new nuclear bombs from an omnibus spending bill.

The elimination of funding for the controversial Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW) represents a major setback for the Bush administration's plan to develop an entirely new generation of nuclear weapons. Instead, the bill requests a "comprehensive nuclear weapons strategy for the 21st century" prepared by the Departments of Defense and Energy and the intelligence community.

"Moving forward on a new nuclear weapon is not something this nation should do without great consideration," said Rep. Peter J. Visclosky (D-IN). "With the end of the Cold War and a new threat from terrorists seeking nuclear materials," Visclosky said, "the US needs a comprehensive nuclear defense strategy, and a revised stockpile plan to guide the transformation and downsizing of the complex...to reflect the new realities of the world."

A spokesperson for the Energy Department's National Nuclear Security Administration, which oversees the US nuclear arsenal, stated, "We will likely have to go down a path of a full-life extension program for nuclear weapons in our stockpile, which in the long run will be more costly, without introducing modern safety and security measures into our weapons."

Pincus, Walter, "Nuclear Warhead Cut from Spending Bill," *Washington Post*, December 18, 2007.

UC Pays \$2.8 Million Fine for Poor Nuclear Weapons Management

The University of California has agreed to a \$2.8 million settlement with the Department of Energy over a 2006 security lapse at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).

The settlement is less than the \$3 million penalty that the National Nuclear Security Administration had sought from the University of California, which was the sole manager of LANL until October of last year. The fine was the result of an incident in which 1,000 pages of classified documents and several computer storage devices were found during a drug raid in a former LANL worker's home.

Initially, the University denied responsibility because the former employee worked for a subcontractor. The fine will not come from California state funds, but will be taken from fees earned under the University's contract.

Clark, Heather, "Lab Breach Costs \$2.8 Million," *Associated Press*, December 17, 2007.

Missile Defense

Czechs Oppose US Missile Defense Plans

A new poll shows that 68% of adults in the Czech Republic oppose the construction of a US missile defense base in their country, and 73% believe the issue should be decided by a referendum.

In January 2007, the US issued a formal request to place a radar base in the Czech Republic as well as 10 interceptor missiles in Poland.

Washington claims that the project is intended to protect the US and its European allies from a potential attack by Iran or North Korea. Many believe the missile defense program is actually targeted at Russia.

"Czechs Still Oppose US Missile Shield, Want Vote," *Angus Reid Global Monitor*, December 17, 2007.

Nuclear Energy and Waste

Environmental Impacts of Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Transportation and Storage

At a Department of Energy (DOE) hearing on December 5th, a coalition of environmental and security groups detailed the dangers of the proposed plan to transport nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain, Nevada for storage. Citing serious security, environmental, and public health threats associated with shipping nuclear waste through residential areas across the United States, the groups stated that the Yucca Mountain plan had fundamental flaws and should not go forward.

In 1987, Yucca Mountain, Nevada was selected by Congress as the only site to be studied as a permanent geologic repository for the United States' now approximately 60,000 metric tons of commercial nuclear waste. Due to a protracted battle over security, environmental, scientific and health concerns, the Yucca Mountain Geologic Repository has never opened. After a 20-year battle, the DOE is still struggling against strong public and congressional opposition to the plan.

"Shipping tens of thousands of high-level radioactive waste trucks, trains, and barges through 45 states and the District of Columbia risks severe accidents and terrorist attacks releasing catastrophic amounts of deadly radioactivity in major population centers," said Kevin Kamps of Beyond Nuclear. "These waste transports would represent potential mobile Chernobyls and dirty bombs on wheels rolling past the homes of millions of Americans."

"Instead of the flawed Yucca Mountain plan, our member organizations support hardened on-site storage of spent nuclear fuel as described in the *Principles for Safeguarding Nuclear Waste at Reactors*," said Alfred Meyer, Program Director of the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, representing 35 organizations around the US.

“From a scientific, national security and energy policy perspective, Yucca Mountain is a failure. Rather than continue to sink precious public resources into the failed nuclear waste dump, the Department of Energy should be focused on promoting the technologies proven to work: renewable energy like wind and solar and energy efficiency,” said Tyson Slocum, Director of Public Citizen’s Energy Program.

“Yucca Mountain is a volcano on an aquifer in an earthquake zone,” said Ben Schreiber, Energy Advocate for Environment America. “It is unsound for the permanent storage of nuclear waste.”

“Yucca Mountain is the worst single site that has been evaluated in the U.S. and should be abandoned,” said Dr. Arjun Makhijani, President of the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research.

This hearing is the last of a series of public hearings across the country responding to the DOE’s Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on the *Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain* and the *Draft Environmental Impact Statement on a Rail Alignment for the Construction and Operation of a Railroad in Nevada to a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain*. Under the National Environmental Policy Act, the DOE is required to give the public the opportunity to express their concerns or questions through written or oral comments. The public comment period ends January 10, 2008.

Roth, Nickolas, "Groups Testify on Impact of Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Transportation and Storage," www.commondreams.org, December 5, 2007.

Resources

Is Nuclear Power the Answer to Global Warming?

This brief leaflet argues that nuclear power is not the answer to global warming and summarizes 10 arguments against nuclear power. The leaflet can be found at: www.greenhealthorg.uk/NuclearLeaflet.htm.

UK's Trident: The Deal Isn't Done

The Department of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford (England) has released a new report entitled “Trident: The Deal Isn’t Done - Serious Questions Remain Unanswered.” It examines the nature of the decision taken by the UK Government and endorsed by its Parliament to replace Trident, Britain’s nuclear weapons system. The report also looks at future decisions for the Trident replacement program and identifies a number of crucial questions that the Government has not adequately explained or has dismissed. It can be read at: www.brad.ac.uk/acad/bdrc/nuclear/trident/briefing1.html

Foundation Activities

NAPF Launches an Appeal to the Next US President

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has launched an [Appeal](#) to the next President of the United States calling for US leadership for a nuclear weapons-free world. The Appeal will be delivered to the White House on January 20, 2009 when a new President is inaugurated.

You can sign the Appeal online by clicking [here](#).

The Appeal reads in part, “The era of nuclear weapons must be brought to an end...it is our responsibility to eliminate them before they eliminate us.”

It continues, “I call upon the next President of the United States to make a world free of nuclear weapons an urgent priority and to assure US leadership to realize this goal.”

Please sign the Appeal today on our website:

[www.wagingpeace.org/menu/action/urgent-actions/appeal to next pres/](http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/action/urgent-actions/appeal%20to%20next%20pres/).

You can also download the Appeal to collect printed signatures [here](#).

Peace Educator Colman McCarthy to Speak at 7th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture

Former *Washington Post* columnist and prominent peace educator Colman McCarthy will present the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation’s 7th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on February 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Santa Barbara City College’s Fe Bland Forum. Admission is free.

McCarthy's message will be clear: *“Unless we teach our children peace, someone else will teach them violence.”*

The title of his talk is “Teach Peace,” and he is calling for a significant change in our educational system.

McCarthy believes peace studies should be part of the core curriculum. He believes the philosophy of peace, the writings of great peace leaders and non-violent conflict resolution should be part of a very practical, community-oriented approach to education.

If you will be in the Santa Barbara area, we strongly encourage you to attend what promises to be a meaningful and moving event.

Please check our website, www.wagingpeace.org, which will be updated with further information about this event.

Primary Season Begins; Where Do Candidates Stand on Nuclear Policy?

As primary voting gets underway in states across the US, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation’s [presidential candidates feature](#) is taking on added importance.

We have sent out a [survey](#) on US nuclear weapons policy to the major candidates in the Democratic, Green and Republican parties. To date, eight candidates have replied to the survey. You can see their responses on our website: http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/resources/surveys/2008_pres_cand/cand_survey.htm

We have also compiled key quotes from many of the candidates on issues relating to US nuclear weapons policy. The quotes are available on our website:

http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/resources/surveys/2008_pres_cand/cand_quotes_page.php

As a 501(c)3 organization, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation does not endorse political parties or candidates. This project is for educational purposes only.

Foundation's Free DVD Spreading Across the World

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's new DVD, *Nuclear Weapons and the Human Future*, has been requested by over 800 individuals and organizations in 110 countries and 40 US states.

The DVD, provided free of charge to all, outlines the Foundation's case against nuclear weapons. It has proven to be a powerful educational tool and call for action.

You can preview the DVD and order your free copy on our website:
http://www.wagingpeace.org/nuc_weapons_human_future.php

Quotes

Jackie Cabasso, Executive Director, Western States Legal Foundation

"Imagine a scenario in which tens or hundreds of thousands of people around the country were calling unambiguously for the abolition of nuclear weapons and war and demanding meaningful leadership from the United States. What kind of political space might be opened up, and what kind of results might one expect?"

-- **Jackie Cabasso**, Executive Director, Western States Legal Foundation.

Nancy Reagan

"It was always Ronnie's dream that the world would one day be free of nuclear arms. He felt that as long as such weapons were around, sooner or later they would be used. The result would be catastrophic."

-- Former First Lady **Nancy Reagan**, describing Ronald Reagan's vision of a nuclear weapons-free world in a letter to former Secretary of State George Shultz.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

"I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of nuclear annihilation."

-- **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, accepting the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Jonathan Schell

"With each year that passes, nuclear weapons provide their possessors with less safety while provoking more danger. The walls dividing the nations of the two-tiered (nuclear) world are crumbling."

-- **Jonathan Schell**, from his new book "The Seventh Decade, The New Shape of Nuclear Danger."

CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

--Senator Blanche Lincoln: Web Site (they have contact links):

www.lincoln.senate.gov; <http://www.lincoln.senate.gov/index.cfm>;

<http://www.lincoln.senate.gov/webform.html>

Washington Office: 355 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-0404

Phone: (202) 224-4843 Fax: (202) 228-1371.

Fayetteville office: 251-1380. Lincoln's staff is better informed than Boozman's (see below), but obviously (her vote to join Bush in appropriating \$95 billion more to keep the occupation going) they need a lot of education. (Send Dick, Melanie, Gladys, Kelly and Donna corrections and additions.)

Northwestern Regional Office

4 South College Avenue, Suite 205,

Fayetteville, AR 72701 (479) 251-1224; FAX (479) 251-1410

Community Affairs Specialist: John Hicks

State Central Office

912 West Fourth Street

Little Rock, AR 72201

TEL: (501) 375-2993

FAX: (501) 375-7064

--Senator Mark Pryor: Web Site (see contact link): www.pryor.senate.gov ;

<http://pryor.senate.gov/contact/>

Pryor has no office in NWA, so call or write him and his staff in DC: **Washington Office: 217 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-0403.**

Phone: (202) 224-2353 Fax: (202) 228-0908

Main District Office: 500 Pres. Clinton Ave., Suite 401, Little Rock, AR 72201.

Phone: (501) 324-6336 Fax: (501) 324-5320.

(Send Dick up to date details.)

--Congressman John Boozman, District 3, 12 counties from Benton to Washington

Lowell office: 479-725-0400. 213 W. Monroe, Suite K, 72745. ASK BOOZMAN WHO ON HIS STAFF IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS. Boozman's new office in Lowell is located at 213 West Monroe in Lowell between I 540 and Business 71. Go there, talk to Boozman's staff members. They are all polite young people, but now, made blind and deaf by the US Corporate/War complex, they need your peaceful explanation of reality and values. To reach that office take Exit 78 off I - 540 and go east. You will be on Hwy 264 which is also West Monroe. The office is in the Puppy Creek Plaza, past the McDonald's on the right. His suite is in the back of the complex to the left. Or write or call. **Ms. McClure** is Assistant Chief of Staff for the Lowell office, Ms. Breazeal focuses on gangs, and Ms. Stacy Davis is constituent staff member.

Ft. Smith office: 479-782-7787; 30 South 6th St. Rm 240, Ft. Smith 72901.

Harrison office: 870-741-6900; 402 N. Walnut, Suite 210, Harrison 72601.

DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301. Leslie Parker, appointments secretary: 202-225-4301. (Or she was, let me know if it's now someone else.)

END OF NUCLEAR NEWSLETTER #2, #1 APPEARED JUNE 14, 2007

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