

OMNI NEWSLETTER: 6th SPECIAL NUMBER ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND GENOCIDE, UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE, SEPTEMBER 21, 2009, OMNI Building a Culture of PEACE, *Satyagraha and Ahimsa*

Seeking Truth Against Killing. Dick Bennett, Editor for Special Issues. (See #1, June 14, 2007; #2, January 8, 2008; #3 May 16, 2008; #4 June 10; 2009, #5 July 23, 2009.) These six newsletters provide a compendium of information for understanding the history of nuclear weapons as a foundation for abolishing them. Go to: www.omnicenter.org, at bottom of home page click on *periodicals*.

(OMNI is seeking a new general editor of our topical newsletters and editors for specific topics. Contact Gladys Tiffany or Dick Bennett.)

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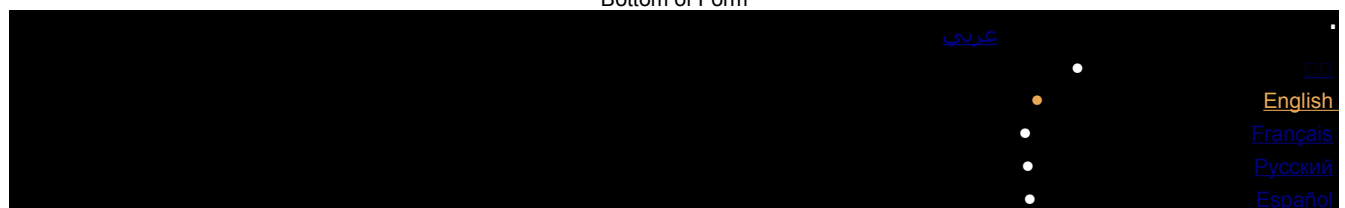
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**International Day of Peace, 21 September
WMD - We Must Disarm: Take action
for a world free of nuclear weapons**

- UN Home
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- 100 Reasons to Disarm
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Today's reason why "We Must Disarm"

Twitter Updates

- Aaron Thevenin, 16, from NY moves the crowd w' his rap 4 peace @ UN stud conf on disarmament <http://yfrog.com/0b1tpj> about an hour ago
[follow WMD on Twitter](#)

3

days left

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campaign on:

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- [Facebook](#)
- [MySpace](#)

Sign

Declaration

WMD

Short Video

Competition

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Disarmament and non-proliferation

The **International Day of Peace**, observed each year on 21 September, is a global call for ceasefire and non-violence. This year the Secretary-General is calling on governments and citizens to focus on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

On 13 June 2009, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched a multiplatform campaign under the slogan *WMD – We Must Disarm* to mark the 100-day countdown leading up to the International Day of Peace on 21 September.

During the 100 days of the campaign, the United Nations will raise awareness of the dangers and costs of nuclear weapons by issuing a reason a day on why nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation are so crucial, via Twitter and the social networking sites Facebook and MySpace. The Secretary-General has been joined in the campaign by United Nations Messenger of Peace Michael Douglas, who has championed the cause of disarmament for the United Nations since 1998, and American actor Rainn Wilson, featured in the TV series *The Office*.

Everyone can take action by signing a Declaration to support the Secretary-General's drive to rid the world of nuclear weapons, and by submitting their own reasons why *We Must Disarm* in the space provided below.

The International Day of Peace was established by the UN General Assembly in 1981 for "commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace within and among all nations and people." Twenty years later, the General Assembly decided that 21 September would be observed annually as a "day of global ceasefire and non-violence" and invited all Member States, organizations and individuals to commemorate the day, including through education and public awareness, and to cooperate with the United Nations in the establishment of a global ceasefire.

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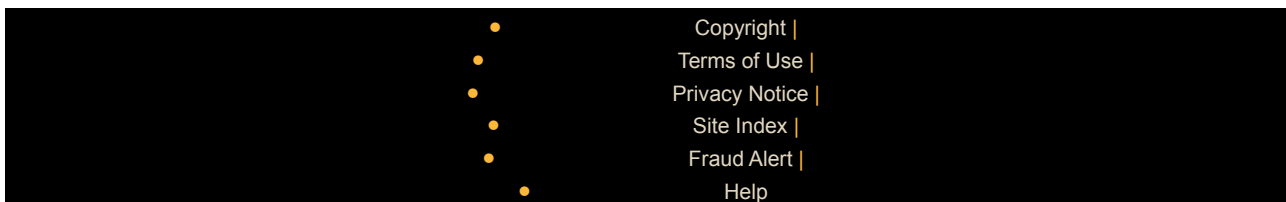
Look at the [reasons why we should disarm](#) posted on this website and then send us your reason by completing the sentence below. Send as many as you like and please include the country you come from.

We must disarm because...

Please select your country
AfghanistanAlbaniaAlgeriaAndorraAngolaAntigua and BarbudaArgentinaArmeniaAustraliaAustriaAzerbaijanBahamasBahrainBangladeshBarbadosBelarusBelgiumBelizeBeninBhutanBoliviaBosnia and HerzegovinaBotswanaBrazilBrunei DarussalamBulgariaBurkina FasoBurundiCambodiaCameroonCanadaCape VerdeCentral African RepublicChadChileChinaColombiaComorosCongoCosta RicaCote d'IvoireCroatiaCubaCyprusCzech RepublicDemocratic People's Republic of KoreaDemocratic Republic of the CongoDenmarkDjiboutiDominicaDominican RepublicEcuadorEgyptEl SalvadorEquatorial GuineaEritreaEstoniaEthiopiaFijiFinlandFranceGabonGambiaGeorgiaGermanyGhanaGreeceGrenadaGuatemalaGuinea-BissauGuineaGuyanaHaitiHondurasHungaryIcelandIndiaIndonesiaIran (Islamic Republic of)IraqIrelandIsraelItalyJamaicaJapanJordanKazakhstanKenyaKiribatiKuwaitKyrgyzstanLao People's Democratic RepublicLatviaLebanonLesothoLiberiaLibyan Arab JamahiriyaLiechtensteinLithuaniaLuxembourgMadagascarMalawiMalaysiaMaldivesMaliMaltaMarshall IslandsMauritaniaMauritiusMexicoMicronesia (Federated States of)MonacoMongoliaMontenegroMoroccoMozambiqueMyanmarNamibiaNauruNepalNetherlandsNew ZealandNicaraguaNigerNigeriaNorwayOmanPakistanPalauPanamaPapua New GuineaParaguayPeruPhilippinesPolandPortugalQatarRepublic of KoreaRepublic of MoldovaRomaniaRussian FederationRwandaSaint Kitts and NevisSaint LuciaSaint Vincent and the GrenadinesSamoaSan MarinoSao Tome and PrincipeSaudi ArabiaSenegalSerbiaSeychellesSierra LeoneSingaporeSlovakiaSloveniaSolomon IslandsSomaliaSouth AfricaSpainSri LankaSudanSurinameSwazilandSwedenSwitzerlandSyrian Arab RepublicTajikistanThailandThe former Yugoslav Republic of MacedoniaTimor-LesteTogoTongaTrinidad and TobagoTunisiaTurkeyTurkmenistanTuvaluUgandaUkraineUnited Arab EmiratesUnited Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern IrelandUnited Republic of TanzaniaUnited States of AmericaUruguayUzbekistanVanuatuVenezuelaViet NamYemenZambiaZimbabweOther

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LETTER FROM ELLEN THOMAS AND PROPOSITION ONE IN 2010 [NOTE: Ellen and friends passed through Fayetteville last month and presented a lecture sponsored by OMNI.]

Greetings from McCall, Idaho, on day 86 of our cross-country tour!

We keep promising to send an email with information how people can sign up with NucNews, a near-daily update of all things nuclear. Here's how:

Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NucNews/> and there should be a way to sign up. If not, email me and I'll do it for you.

Also, I've just posted to the Proposition One In 2010 Campaign Blog at <http://propositiononein2010.blogspot.com> -- you can subscribe on the home page.

This has been an amazing experience, meeting wonderful people of all ages who care just as much as we do about getting rid of the nuclear weapons and transforming our war economy. We'll be in Boise tomorrow, Salt Lake City by the 25th of September, then Colorado, then east....

Let us know contact info for anyone you think we should visit?

Love and peace to all,

Ellen, Jay, Troy, and Sophia the Peace Dog

Ellen Thomas <et@prop1.org>

Proposition One In 2010 Campaign

202-210-3886 (cell)

Blog: <http://propositiononein2010.blogspot.com>

Yes, We Can ...

Convert the War Machines

Provide for Human Needs

<http://prop1.org/prop1/>

Thanks to Bonnie Cook the following was e-mailed to the Senior Democrats members:
PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT AND SENATORS LINCOLN AND PRYOR
US LEADERSHIP FOR A NUCLEAR WEAPONS-FREE WORLD

On April 1, 2009, President Obama and Russia's President Medvedev jointly "committed [their] two countries to achieving a nuclear free world." Later in a speech in Prague, Pres. Obama reinforced his commitment to leading an international effort to eliminate all nuclear weapons. These pledges are only the beginning. They will need the numerous support and hard work of the people to bring this goal to reality.

We call upon the President to make a world free of nuclear weapons his urgent priority.

Dick send the signatures (along with others gathered at Farmer's Market) to our Congressional Delegation. Will some of you continue the petition? Contact Dick.

DOCUMENTARY FILM ON *PUGWASH AND JOSEPH ROTBLAT*

Nobel Peace Prize winners revealed as significant players in nuclear weapons control . --

[Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs](#)

A Documentary *Film* about Joseph Rotblat, *Pugwash*, and Nuclear Weapons, to help celebrate the centenary of the birth of Joseph Rotblat.

www.pugwash.org/ -

Go to OMNI's web site for rest of newsletter.

WILLIAM BLUM

Anti-Empire Report, August 4, 2009

<http://www.killinghope.org/bblum6/aer72.html>

Anti-Empire Report, September 2, 2009

<http://www.killinghope.org/bblum6/aer73.html>

DEMOCRACY NOW ROUNDTABLE, AUGUST 10, 2009

Susan Idlet has sent you a story from Democracy Now!, a daily independent radio and TV news program:

Sixty-four years after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we host a roundtable discussion on the present nuclear landscape. We speak with nuclear physicist and disarmament activist Pervez Hoodbhoy, peace activist Frida Berrigan, and Daniel Ellsberg, the whistleblower who leaked the Pentagon Papers. Over the next year, Ellsberg will release regular installments of his insider's memoir of the nuclear era, "The American Doomsday Machine."

To read, listen to, or watch the whole story:

http://www.democracynow.org/2009/8/10/for_the_64th_time_no_more

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION: INDIA, USA, and NPT

Dick: Pervez Hoodbhoy, Pakistani physicist opponent of nuclear weapons, described India's nuclear development on *Democracy Now* 8-10-09: India's nuclear budget, now \$28 billion annually, will jump to \$40 billion next year. US assistance to India's buildup gutted the NPT Nuclear Proliferation Treaty, which forbids any nation not signing the NPT from assisting. See Daniel Ellsberg's new book serialized online, first installment "Hiroshima Day: America Has Been Asleep at the Wheel for Over 60 Years."

DICK'S TALK "HIROSHIMA-NAGASAKI REMEMBRANCE 2009: THE NUCLEAR VIOLENCE EPIDEMIC, THE NUCLEAR PEACE MOVEMENT, AND PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA"(8-9-09): for the full version go to OMNI's web site: www.omnicenter.org

DICK'S LETTER ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Northwest Arkansas Times

Dear Editor:

The Nuclear Weapons Pandemic July 28, 2009

Christie Swanson reminded us that flu pandemics have become less fatal. The Spanish flu, 1918-19, killed more than 50 million people in less than a year. The 1968 Hong Kong flu killed about 33,800 people, and the 2009 swine flu outbreak as of May had killed only 42. How has this remarkable achievement happened? "As medical advances continued, the death rate dropped" (*NAT* 5-8-09).

Similarly, we can hope to reduce and eventually eliminate the pandemic of nuclear weapons. Hope lies in the same international human cooperation, skills, and ethics that turned back flu. Hope comes also from awareness of the consequences of the disease: One 20-megaton nuclear weapon detonated in the center of any city near the size of New York City will kill ten times as many people as all the battle deaths that occurred in all the wars of U.S. history. Exposure of the old canard of wars' inevitability further gives rise to hope. Understanding is spreading worldwide that nuclear weapons are actually a threat to peace and might even cause mutual suicide, since every weapon possessed in history has been used. Our new President Obama has pledged to seek abolition of these weapons. He and President Medvedev recently agreed to a significant reduction. Grounds for hope are many and substantial, if we all work as hard against nuclear doomsday as we have against the flu.

We are aware of the difficulties ahead, of which fear is foremost. Eight nations now have nuclear

weapons on trigger alert, and fear has propelled the proliferation, particularly with so-called enemies of the U.S. The U.S. has encouraged the expansion of nuclear nations and weapons by stimulating other nations' nuclear anxiety. "Axis of Evil" Iraq did not have the weapons and was invaded. Perhaps North Korea sought the weapons to prevent the same catastrophe; and Iran is perhaps preparing its own nuclear defense against threats from Israel and the U.S. Who is the "rogue" in this story?

We, the people of the world can hope that if we can anticipate the end of flu we can hope to end the disease of nuclear holocaust. The new U.S./Russia treaty to replace the Cold War-era Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) before it expires December 3 could cut the number of nuclear bombs each country can stockpile to about 1,500. That's still more than enough to blow up every major city on the planet, but it's a hopeful restarting. Without Russia and the U. S. cutting their nuclear arsenals, Pres. Obama has no chance of bringing North Korea, Iran and future nuclear aspirants to the table.

But treaties require Senate ratification. We, the people must act. **Email and phone your Senators** for their support of the Obama/Medvedev treaty to reduce nuclear weapons.

Sources

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"Israel Concerned Over 'Umbrella.'" *TMN* (July 24, 2009).

Levy, Clifford and Peter Baker. "U.S. Russia Strike Deal on Weapon Reductions." *ADG* (July 7, 2009). Excellent report, not only about reducing arsenals but also determination to abolish nuclear weapons.

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Swanson, Christie. "A Disgrace to Hogs." *NAT* (May 8, 2009).

Weissman, Steve. "Obama's Nuclear Gambit." *Truthout Perspective* (July 14, 2009).

NUCLEAR NOTES

Reinterpreting Early August

[Boston Globe](#) | By James Carroll | August 3, 2009

The point of the annual early August commemorative exercise has never been to look back judgmentally on the past from the saddle of a moral high horse, as if - had we been there, knowing what they knew, feeling what they felt - we'd have behaved differently. **The urgent task of moral reckoning is not about the past, but about the present and future.**

A Flash of Memory

[New York Times](#) | By ISSEY MIYAKE | July 13, 2009

On Aug. 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb was dropped on my hometown, Hiroshima. I was there, and only 7 years old. When I close my eyes, I still see things no one should ever experience: a bright red light, the black cloud soon after, people running in every direction trying desperately to escape — I remember it all. Within three years, my mother died from radiation exposure.

Obama's Big Missile Test

[New York Times](#) | Philip Taubman | July 8, 2009

...the overall Obama approach involves a balancing act that requires him to move boldly while reassuring opponents that he is not endangering our security. Put simply, he has to maintain a potent nuclear arsenal while slashing it.

For the Sixty-Fourth Time: No More Nuclear War Reflections on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Our World

By Frida Berrigan | [Tom Dispatch](#) | August 3, 2009

Keep in mind as well that the bombs which annihilated two Japanese cities and ended so many lives 64 years ago this week were puny when compared to today's typical nuclear weapon. Little Boy was a 15 kiloton warhead. Most of the warheads in the U.S. arsenal today are 100 or 300 kilotons -- capable of taking out not a Japanese city of 1945 but a modern megalopolis. Bruce Blair, president of the World Security Institute and a former launch-control officer in charge of Minutemen Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles armed with 170, 300, and 335 kiloton warheads, pointed out a few years ago that, within 12 minutes, the United States and Russia could launch the equivalent of 100,000 Hiroshimas.

It is unthinkable. It seems unimaginable. It sounds like hyperbole, but consider it an uncomfortable and necessary truth. The people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the children of our future need us to understand this and act upon it -- 64 years too late... and not a minute too soon.

Three Good Reasons To Liquidate Our Empire and 10 Ways to Do It

By Chalmers Johnson, [Tomdispatch.com](#). Posted July 31, 2009.

According to the 2008 official Pentagon inventory of our military bases around the world, our empire consists of 865 facilities in more than 40 countries and overseas U.S. territories. We deploy over 190,000 troops in 46 countries and territories...

These massive concentrations of American military power outside the United States are not needed for our defense. They are, if anything, a prime contributor to our numerous conflicts with other countries. They are also unimaginably expensive. According to Anita Dancs, an analyst for the website Foreign Policy in Focus, the United States spends approximately \$250 billion each year maintaining its global military presence.

END OF OMNI NUCLEAR WAR NEWSLETTER #6 SEPTEMBER 21,
2009