

NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL NO-NUKES PRISON SUPPORT COLLECTIVE

A SUPPORT NETWORK FOR JAILED AND IMPRISONED ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIVISTS

No. 7

Sept. 19, 1981

Rocky Flats

Refusing to be intimidated by a court injunction forbidding protest at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant, two members of the Rocky Flats Truth Force celebrated the Fourth of July by declaring their independence from complicity in nuclear weapons production, and crossing the line at Rocky Flats. Ron Boyer and Peter Jamieson were arrested at the first civil disobedience action at the plant since the injunction was issued forbidding protest there (NNNPSC #4).

In a lengthy series of letters begun while awaiting trial in Denver County Jail for a previous arrest at Rocky Flats, Ron Boyer communicated with Judge Fred Winner on the dangers of the Rocky Flats plant and of the nuclear arms race itself. In the latest letter, mailed June 30th, Ron announced his intention to violate the injunction by a further act of civil disobedience. On Thursday, July 2, Ron appeared before Judge Winner in a show-cause hearing to give evidence as to why he should not be held in contempt of court by "threatening" action at the plant. Ron's appearance resulted in a stern warning not to violate the injunction. Nevertheless, Peter Jamieson and Ron Boyer walked onto the tracks on July 4th and were arrested.

On July 6th, in a hearing before Judge Winner, Ron and Peter appeared to answer charges of contempt of court for violating the federal injunction prohibiting trespass. Peter's case was continued to allow him time to seek legal counsel. Ron, agreeing with the state's testimony as to his presence at Rocky Flats and to his stated intention to trespass in resistance to the production of genocidal weapons there, asked for a court trial and immediate sentencing. He contested only the charge of contempt insofar as the word "contempt" suggests disdain for the court. In the non-violent tradition of respecting one's opponents, Ron expressed that he felt no personal animosity. Although Judge Winner commended him for his honesty and integrity, Ron was sentenced to four months in a federal prison.

On July 21st, Peter Jamieson, who had been fasting while being held at the Denver City Jail, was also sentenced to four months in prison. Both Ron and Peter were then released pending assignment to federal work camps, where they are now. Please send a

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Diablo Canyon

In the largest non-violent civil disobedience action in the United States since Seabrook, 1977, over 900 people have been arrested at the site of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in California. As we go to press, almost everyone so far arrested is being held by authorities on charges of failure to disperse and criminal trespass. Despite the non-violent attitude of the blockaders, police brutality has been reported at the site, including a report of one officer, name tag removed to prevent identification, repeatedly jabbing his billy club into the belly of one protester. The men are being held in the gymnasium of a local junior college, and the women in an abandoned building on the site of a nearby men's prison colony.

The blockade/encampment began over the weekend of September 12, as thousands of people converged on a campsite near the plant. In planning for over a year, the blockade was set in motion when the NRC issued its final approval for loading the nuclear fuel and beginning the low-power "testing" of the plant a few days earlier. After that approval, the Alliance called on all those who had been preparing for the blockade to begin assembling in San Luis Obispo, the town nearest the plant. Participants were asked to be prepared to stay up to 30 days and to risk arrest and jail.

Early Tuesday morning, September 15, hundreds of activists began to move from the encampment site towards the plant, blocking the access roads with their

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Diablo (cont.)

bodies, scaling fences and gates to occupy the site and landing on the coast near the cooling water intake valves. Over 700 were arrested that day, and decreasing numbers on each successive day up to the present. Organizers vow that the blockade will continue until all the participants have been arrested and are in jail; or until PG&E, the owner of the nuke, agrees never to start operating it.

Conditions where those arrested are being held are very poor. Feeding the prisoners has been an infrequent occurrence. The men were fed one bologna sandwich in the 24 hours preceding the first set of arraignments on September 17. There is great concern that the building housing the women is not up to building codes and may be a fire trap. Access to attorneys has also been limited. Juveniles arrested were released immediately, but their belongings were not returned, and no mechanism seems to be available to secure return of the items. Bail and jail solidarity is nearly 100%. Bail has been set at \$630, plus the condition that one must not return to the protest site.

At the first arraignments, those pleading no contest or guilty received sentences of four days in jail or \$120 fine. Most of the group pled not guilty, and pre-trial hearings were set to begin on September 24.

Support for the blockade has come from up and down the west coast, and particularly the immediate area surrounding the plant. The support network developed there provides a working model for other anti-nuclear groups to follow in expanding their own resistance. Volunteer legal support has been recruited. Telephone trees have been set up to respond quickly to immediate needs of the blockade. Food, child-care, and house-sitting have been donated by people in the area to aid participants in the blockade. Entire families and people who have never before been involved in protest were among the thousands who took part in non-violence training workshops. New callers offering support were phoning the Diablo Project office every 5-10 minutes in the days before the first arrests were made. Community opposition to the plant runs so broad and deep that many taking part in the blockade are facing friends and neighbors among the police and National Guard arresting them. One woman blackader's husband could not join her because his National Guard unit was among those called to police the action.

Diablo is considered a keystone for the nuclear industry of the 80's. Activists and industrialists both feel that if this plant, with its obvious dangers and long history of legal intervention to prevent licensing, should go on line, it will speed the licensing of others across the country. Legal intervention began over a decade ago, after concerns were voiced about an earthquake fault off the coast near the plant. The presence of this fault was confirmed in 1973 by a USGS survey. Among the groups involved in legal intervention are the Mothers for Peace and the Center for Law in the Public Interest. Earthquake, safety and other concerns have been met with a deaf ear by authorities, and the licensing process, though slowed, was not to be stopped. The reason, according to a NRC memo leaked in 1977,

Rocky Flats (cont.)

note of support to Ron Boyer; F.P.C.; Box 1000; Leavenworth, KS 66048, and Peter Jamieson, 16956-013; Florence, AZ 85232.

A few words supporting their acts of conscience could also be sent to Judge Fred Winner; U.S. Federal Courthouse; Denver, CO.

Pantex

Only two of the six Pantex prayer pilgrims remain in prison at this writing. Larry Rosebaugh; MCC: 71 W. Van Buren St.; Chicago IL 60605; and Ladon Sheats, 11388-077; Box 7 Terminal Island, CA 90731 are both serving one year sentences for the group's action. Along with Steve Clemens, Mary Sprunger-Froese, Vince Eirene and Kathy Jennings, Larry and Ladon had climbed homemade ladders over the outer security fence at the Pantex nuclear weapons assembly plant near Amarillo, Texas, and upon reaching the inner fence, knelt in prayer; a peaceful resistance to the violence of Pantex's sole product.

Steve and Vince were released July 7, and Mary and Kathy on September 4.

others inside

BILL KUYKENDALL #122627

NEW KENT CORRECTIONAL UNIT #16

STAR ROUTE BOX 80-A

BARHANSVILLE, VA 23011

(BILL AND JIM ARE SERVING TWO YEAR SENTENCES FOR SABOTAGING NEW FUEL RODS AT THE SURRY, VIRGINIA NUKE WHERE THEY WERE EMPLOYED. THEY WERE ATTEMPTING TO DRAW ATTENTION TO GROSS SAFETY VIOLATIONS THERE.)

JIM MERRILL #122618

STATE CORRECTIONAL UNIT

CHESTERFIELD, VIRGINIA

is "because of the large financial loss involved and the severe impact such action would have on the nuclear industry".

Civil disobedience has been a part of the campaign to stop Diablo since August of 1977. The Abalone Alliance sensed that the nuke's operation would be approved regardless of the legal opposition, and last year began gathering their supporters for the present protest.

We urge you to send a note supporting the blockade--particularly in light of the long and unsuccessful history of legal intervention at Diablo, to the judges handling the cases. Write to Judge Warren Conklin and Judge Wood; San Luis Obispo County Courthouse; Monterey Street; San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

Please also send support messages to the people arrested, c/o Abalone Alliance/Diablo Project Office; 452 Higuera Street; San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

The next Newsletter will have more information about those who end up with longer jail terms.

White House/ State Department

During the unprecedented month-long series of daily civil (dis)obedience actions at the White House (NNNPSC #6), nearly 250 arrests were made. Most of those arrested were charged with disorderly conduct, many spending at least one night in the D.C. Jail, and others receiving sentences ranging from community service to 60 days suspended jail time, to six months in the hoosegow.

Two men remain in jail as a result of the June activities. George Veasey, a Marine Corps Veteran with a long civil disobedience record his former superiors would rather ignore, is serving 6 months for his June arrest in the Washington, D.C. Jail, 1901 D Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. Also, Peter DeMott was found guilty of violating his parole on sub-bashing charges (NNNPSC #4) by being arrested at the "Blight House" in June. Peter is at F.C.I., Petersburg, VA 23803, for six months.

Last April 16, Theresa Guisti, Macy Morse and Tom Reed were arrested at the State Department, where they had managed to penetrate the security of the building to a hallway right outside Secretary Haig's office, and perform a Catholic rite of exorcism. (NNNPSC #6) After being beaten on the site by the guard who discovered them, each received a 90-day sentence for their protest against Haig's nuclear policies. Tom Reed and Macy Morse appealed the decision, and were released July 27, after several weeks in jail. Theresa Guisti did not appeal, and is still at the Washington, D.C. Jail, 1901 D Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. She is due to be released October 9.

Calloway

Trials for 28 people arrested at the unfinished Calloway Nuclear Power Plant in Missouri on March 28, 1981, have been delayed again. Two were scheduled for August 24 and 25, and others for later in September. Maureen O'Day of the Crawdad Alliance notes that "many of the defendants are committed to doing jail time instead of paying a fine". Letters of support can be sent to Crawdad Alliance, 438 N. Skinker Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63130.

S.A.C. Omaha

Hiroshima/Nagasaki day activities at the S.A.C. Headquarters at Offut AFB near Omaha, Nebraska, resulted in five more people receiving "ban and barring" letters, which warn that they will be arrested the next time they are detained for protesting at the site. One person, Jack Chalmers, of the Walk to Moscow, was arrested for leafletting on state property and charged with obstructing a police officer. His trial has been postponed until late September.

Trials of several people arrested over the past year at Offut, which were scheduled for this summer, have again been postponed--this time until October.

Plowshares Eight Sentenced

On Tuesday, July 28, in a courtroom packed with their supporters, a "vengeful and vindictive" (in the words of one woman present) Judge Samuel Salus handed down sentences for the Plowshares Eight. After first remarking that he would rather send them to serve in a leper colony in Puerto Rico, or to Russia where they might end up in a Siberian cell for their protests, Salus sentenced John Schuchardt, Rev. Carl Kabat, Rev. Daniel Berrigan and Philip Berrigan to 3-10 years on the burglary and other charges, to be followed by 10 years probation on the conspiracy charge. Molly Rush was sentenced to 2-5 years plus 5 years probation, and Dean Hammer, Elmer Maas and Sister Anne Montgomery each received sentences of 1½-5 years plus 5 years probation. The judge then revoked bail for all eight and sent them to jail immediately, with the final demand that they repay the court for the cost of their prosecution.

Lawyers for the eight appealed the revocation of bail immediately. Three days later, after a Pennsylvania Superior Court panel ordered that bonds be reinstated, Daniel Berrigan, Molly Rush and Anne Montgomery were released pending the appeal of their convictions. Dean Hammer was released later, and currently the remaining four men are at the following prisons: Philip Berrigan, M-4935, Camp Hill SCI, Box 200, Camp Hill, PA 17011. John Schuchardt, M-4932, Pittsburgh SCI, Box 9901, Pittsburgh, PA 15233. Carl Kabat, M-4934, and Elmer Maas, both at Graterford SCI, Box 244, Graterford, PA 19426.

Fasting for Disarmament

Political fasting can carry as strong a message, and have as profound an effect on those participating, as civil disobedience or non-violent direct action and going to jail can have on the imprisoned activist and the community. A network of political fasters is being organized through the "First Step" campaign of the Non-violent Tactics Development Project, 454 Willamette St., Eugene, OR 97401. With the help of the AFSC, fasts were coordinated over August 6-9 in more than two dozen communities across the nation.

The group has proposed working towards a well coordinated and publicized "Fast for Life" as an added lever of public conscience, to help move the US and USSR towards nuclear disarmament. We know of at least one prisoner who participated also--illustrating that fasting, especially short-term sympathetic fasting is a very accessible form of personal protest, regardless of whatever 'prison' we are locked in by our lives.

NVTDP has just published an excellent and expanded "Guide to Political Fasting", which gives advice on health effects of fasting, organizing ideas for a political fast, and a chronology of political fasts and their results. Available from NVTDP for \$2, and well worth it.

Shoreham

SHAD Alliance activists opposing the construction of the Shoreham, Long Island nuclear power plant in New York, quietly planned a joint action for last June 17. It resulted in the arrests of nine people at the nuke site and eight others at the Mineola, N.Y. headquarters of the Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO), owners of the plant. Those involved in the joint action had intended to hang a banner at the plant site, in violation of a temporary injunction barring the SHAD Alliance from demonstrating at the plant. Because of the injunction and concern among Alliance members about LILCO's continuing campaign of harassing SHAD members and backers, plans for the action had been kept from the general public. Legal harassment has included attempts to find organizers of demonstrations at the plant liable for the cost of policing and prosecuting demonstrators.

Those arrested at the plant site, however, were surprised to find that 200 police officers had camped at the site overnight, in anticipation of the action. Trials for the nine arrested are pending, and discovery motions have been filed by SHAD's attorneys seeking to obtain information about surveillance or infiltration which resulted in the police having prior knowledge of the action. The eight arrested at LILCO headquarters (another court's jurisdiction) pled guilty and received sentences of ten hours community service. For more information, please contact Joe Paparatto; c/o SHAD et al. Defense Fund; 333 Terry Rd.; Smithtown, NY 11781; (516) 360-0045.

Trident Launch Protested

The first Trident submarine, the USS Ohio, slipped down the Thames River in Groton, CT, in the foggy, pre-dawn light of June 17, closely shadowed by the 43-foot protest boat, the "Powder Ridge".

As the small boat, laden with "Freeze the Arms Race, US/USSR" signs "escorted" the Trident out to sea, the dozen peace activists on board took turns reading through a megaphone to the Navy and corporate brass assembled on the sub's bridge. They read from the "Call to Halt the Nuclear Arms Race" document, which outlines the freeze proposal.

Two men, John Bach and Tim Quinn of the Hartford Atlantic Life Community, were arrested and charged with third degree criminal trespass after they swam onto Electric Boat Company property attempting to attach a peace symbol to the 560' Trident. They were released that day, and charges were dropped at their arraignment, described by one supporter as "like a little ritual". The prosecutor and judge are familiar with the people involved, and quite aware of their willingness to go to jail. The authorities appear uneager to arouse any more publicity or support for the activists' views and have thus adopted this tactic of routinely dropping charges for acts of non-violent civil (dis)obedience... for now. For more information, contact Marta Daniels; AFSC; RD #1 Box 494; Voluntown, CT 06384; (203) 376-4098.

Anti-Draft Action

A member of the Abrahamic Community in East Lansing, Michigan, Mary Girard, recently wrote to tell us of her 12 days in the Wayne County (Detroit) Jail. Mary had unfurled a peace banner at an ROTC awards ceremony held in the inner city. She noted that "although our protest on that day (May 18) was against recruitment of young people into the military, I feel very strongly that our actions came out of the same basic beliefs and convictions as those folks who are arrested for protesting nuclear weapons." The two issues are very inter-connected, and I don't think we, as people who believe in peace, can afford to separate them".

Indeed, we cannot. As Mary later noted, "What most (in ROTC) do not realize upon enlistment is that they may be in a position someday to 'unleash' the genocidal powers of nuclear weapons upon civilization".

The difficulty is in editing this newsletter. Our goal has been to provide coverage and support as requested for all people jailed/imprisoned in this country for actions against all aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle and nuclear weapons planning, production, testing and deployment systems. We deliberately narrowed the scope of our work so as not to overextend our capability, and to fill a specific informational need. Sometimes, it is hard to know what to publicize and what not to. The peace movement is inextricably linked to the popular movement against nuclear power. But our present resources and methods of communication are not able to adequately report and actively support the scope of peace actions. As our network develops along the lines suggested elsewhere in this issue, perhaps we can better address this problem.

Also, there already are periodicals which are committed to coverage of peace activism, for example, THE PEACEMAKER; Box 627; Garberville, CA 95440 (monthly, \$10/yr.) and WIN MAGAZINE; 326 Livingston St.; Brooklyn, NY 11217 (twice monthly, \$20/yr.)

Regarding draft resistance and coverage of those jailed for this in the future, we trust that the already functioning resistance organizations can provide this.

Your comments on this matter are encouraged.

out of prison

Besides those mentioned elsewhere in this issue, a couple of other people have been freed--though not from our universal condition as nuclear hostages--from prison since our last issue.

Terry Messman-Rucker was released July 2 from a federal work camp in Boron, CA, after a six-month sentence for trespass at an S.A.C. command center in Montana. (NNNPSC #5&6). Larry Purcell was let loose on July 24, after serving nearly 5 months in a California jail for walking with three others into a Lockheed Assembly Plant for Trident missiles, and pouring blood on missile sections and blueprints.

Terry sent us short reviews of the many books about doing time, which he had ample chance to read while at Boron. We'll include these in future issues, along with some comments from Larry about the value for the movement of building communities, which we'll note in the next issue.

What Will It Take To Prevent Nuclear War?

You are invited to respond to the question, "What Will It Take to Prevent Nuclear War?" for a book in preparation which will consist of brief contributions from a wide variety of persons.

Since no one seems to have "the" answer to that vital question of human survival, perhaps everyone has the answer. That is, perhaps collectively we can discover how to prevent nuclear war.

The deadline for responses is October 1, 1981. Responses should not exceed 300 words, or the equivalent of one page. Contributions may be prose, poetry, photograph, line drawing or other form of expression. Contributors should include a one-sentence biographical note. All responses will be acknowledged; responses accompanied by return postage will be returned.

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and encourage more local fundraising for the network. We'd like to institute a correspondence tree involving all those on the mailing list who are engaged in active support--i.e., either writing letters regularly or spreading the news through their own channels. Ideally, we'd like to see anywhere from 5-10 people/groups in different parts of the country take responsibility for a share of the mailing list. Information about an action and jailings would be passed on to these facilitators as it was received, either from where the Newsletter is published (currently Madison) or by the facilitator who initially receives the information. Each facilitator would then have the responsibility for quickly preparing a flyer or post cards based on the information, and alerting their share of the mailing list immediately.

The purpose, then, of a Newsletter such as this is would be re-defined if not eliminated. Our thought right now is that the Newsletter would conceivably bring a summary of information about arrests and jailings of activists to a larger audience--not just those engaged in active support for those inside. It could also serve as a forum for writing by prisoners and for discussion and commentary on issues relating to nuclear resistance and prisons. A lack of time, energy or funds for

There will be a special section of responses from children.

Facts, feelings, ideas and outcries are solicited, as are the voices of those who are discouraged about prospects for the survival of the human race.

Don't hesitate to speak out. Each person is an expert in the art of living and wanting to preserve life. What set of circumstances or forces or people or incantations will be sufficient to turn us from the brink of nuclear holocaust; or is it, in your view, virtually too late?

Send your response to Pat Farren, 2161 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02140.

publishing a newsletter would, in this case, not affect the flow of pertinent information.

If you are interested in working as a facilitator in your area, and (ideally) feel you can garner the financial resources necessary for such a task, please let us know! Right now, the mailing list is small enough to make this proposal affordable. If we had five regional facilitators, they would be responsible for perhaps 50-100 names each on an "alert" list. For 12c-18c postage plus some printing costs, a mailing would not likely exceed about \$25/alert.

READERS!

Readers who are currently or plan to be engaged in active support for jailed activists, please use the coupon in this issue to let us know that specifically, so we can include you on the alert tree. Finally, if you are primarily interested in receiving only the Newsletter, with a summary of current information, let us know so we do not spend our postage including you on the alert list.

Please send us your thoughts! We need to hear from you who receive the Newsletter. We are now a network of several hundred people and groups--let's communicate and make use of the strength of our growing numbers.

Feel free to check more than one--

☐ Please send me the newsletter.

☐ I want to pledge \$ _____ per month to support NNNPSC (printing, postage and telephone expenses, stationery and supplies--all labor is voluntary).

☐ Here's my donation of \$5 \$10 \$20 \$ _____.

☐ I can provide NNNPSC with information about future actions and jailings in my area.

☐ I want to be informed of immediate support actions (via letter tree).

☐ I'm interested in distributing alert information in my region.

☐ I'd like to correspond with other prisoners (other than radioactivists).

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Return coupon to:
NNNPSC
Box 1812
Madison, WI 53701

NNNPSC Needs You!

Sorry for the delay, folks! We had hoped to get more news to you by late August, but summer slipped by too quickly. Much has happened this summer, and continues to happen as we mail this to you. The numbers arrested resisting nuclear power in California near 1000, with more every day. These and other arrests for resistance to nuclear weapons and their apology, nuclear power, result in more people being jailed. And you'll also note some changes in the Newsletter format--we hope it is more convenient to read even with the slightly smaller print, an effort to conserve on space and cost.

In recognition of the fact (evident here) that due to lack of time or funds it may not always be feasible to produce an informative and appealing broadside when the news demands circulation, we are offering below a proposal for making this fledgling support network function more efficiently. Please read on and take a few moments time to respond to our thoughts--the success of NNNPSC depends on YOUR input.

FUNDRAISING! Yes, like everyone, we are running low on funds. We've been pretty frugal, but only have the funds left for a few more issues, at most. Many who request the Newsletter have sent in \$1 to \$20 or stamps, all of which has helped and been greatly appreciated. But that flow, though steady all summer, is slow. Were it not for one generous donation last winter, we could not have covered the cost of printing and posting the last

few issues. Each Newsletter costs about 10c/printed sheet, plus 18c postage--a total of about 28c for the one in your hands now. Plus there are expenses for postage and stationary here in Madison and Eugene, and phone calls for some current information.

Last spring we had a fundraising idea--printing sets of notecards illustrated with graphics and poetry by women and men who have been incarcerated for opposition to nukes. Our plan is to wholesale them through movement groups and retail them through other publications, etc. We are assuming there would be a market within the movement for such unique and attractive cards. But here is the problem--we can't seem to get many artistically minded veterans of the slammer to donate graphics. We'd like to feature the works of as many artists as cards in the set. If you or someone you know has ever spent even a night in jail for no-nukes, and would like to donate graphics or poetry, preferably movement oriented, let us know.

CAN WE BE MORE EFFICIENT?

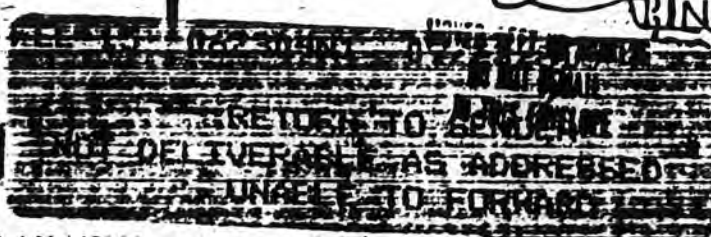
From the beginning, we've had an idea for a way to improve on the periodic newsletter as the primary means of communicating to the support network the vital information of who is jailed where, by whom and for what. This idea would also possibly reduce costs, or at least spread the expenses around a bit more

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