

NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL NO-NUKES PRISON SUPPORT COLLECTIVE

A SUPPORT NETWORK FOR JAILED AND IMPRISONED ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIVISTS

No. 10

January 17, 1982

Christmas at Rocky Flats December 28 Actions

Pentagon

Early Christmas morning, 1981, Peter Sprunger-Froese approached the barbed wire fence marking the outer "buffer area" on the east side of the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant near Denver, Colorado. He clipped the fence with a pair of pliers he carried and walked towards the plant, heading into the wind. The wind almost continually sweeps over the plutonium contaminated plant site, carrying the deadly atoms aloft and depositing them across the Denver metro area in concentrations up to 2000 times the "background" radiation in the areas nearest the fence. He stopped to pray about 100 feet from the inner security fence. When the security officer from the plant confronted him, Peter handed the man his pliers, a loaf of bread, and a Christmas card which read in part: "Please consider seriously what your work at 'Death Flats' means. Please choose instead Life-related work. God's spirit and His people will assist you. Miracles can happen." Peter was then arrested, and taken to the Denver City Jail.

Later in the day, Hedy Sawadsky, Ann Zook, Kris Selvig and Jennifer Haines walked down the west access road towards the plant. They stopped just short of the main gate, and were asked by security personnel to leave. The four replied that they had come to that point to pray, and refused to leave. They, too, were arrested and taken to the city jail.

On Monday, December 28, the five religious activists appeared in front of federal judge Roy Sickler for arraignment. They were charged with contempt of court for violating a federal court order of January, 1981, forbidding trespass at Rocky Flats (NNNPSC #4). They declined the offer of an attorney, and when asked if they wished to waive their right to a jury trial, responded with statements about the distinction between the laws of the court and the laws of their God. A \$500 bond was set and refused by all, and their case deferred to the following Monday. On January 4, they were brought before federal judge Zita Weinshienk, who set a March 1 trial date to hear their case. Bond was not changed, and the five were returned to jail. Judge Weinshienk called the five back to court on Friday, January 8, with an offer to reduce bond to personal recognizance (P.R.). The five would not agree to sign P.R. bonds, stating that they felt no obligation to comply with the terms of a law - the law of the court - which is used to protect the actions of those who would build nuclear weapons. The judge, anxious to release the five peace activists from custody, asked if they would return to the court on March 1, if she ordered them to do so. Peter Sprunger-Froese

Approximately 120 men, women and children gathered with members of the Jonah House Community at St. Stephen's Church in Washington, D.C. for four days of resistance and community development.

The first actions occurred on December 28, the traditional Feast of the Innocents, commemorating Herod's murder of all the baby boys in an attempt to do away with the Christ child. Recognizing the murder of innocents today as the government takes funds from social programs and transfers them to the continuation of a mad nuclear arms race, nine people chained shut the doors at the River Entrance to the Pentagon and sprayed the pillars with black paint, naming "Herod" and "Reagan". In the heavy, early morning fog, the protestors went unnoticed except by Casper Weinberger arriving for work, who decided to try another entrance and subsequently received a parking ticket. No arrests were made.

Another group paraded with images of Reagan and Herod. Ann and Jim Clune, Zacchaeus House, Endicott, N.Y. and Theresa Guisti, Mustard Seed, Worcester, Massachusetts, poured blood in the form of a cross on the steps of the River entrance. After the three were arrested, others laid crosses bearing the word "innocent" on the blood. The three arrested had a January 15 trial, at which Ann was sentenced to 30 days, Jim to 60 days, and Theresa to 90 days. They are all in the D.C. Detention Center; 1901 D Street; Washington, D.C. 20003.

On the morning of December 30, the community gathered on the Pentagon steps, chanting and singing. Blood was poured on the pillars, and blood and ashes on a group of people participating in a die-in, who writhed and screamed on the steps. The arrests were arbitrary in that the police deliberately overlooked some of the participants. Arrested were Jerry Berrigan, Syracuse, New York, Chris Redding, Washington, D.C. and Tom Joyce, Toronto, Ontario. One of the "diers", Edwin Steiner, Americus, Georgia, was also arrested when police mistakenly identified him as one responsible for blood throwing.

The four were charged with depredation of government property, which carries a possible sentence of one year/\$1000 fine. Tom Joyce refused PR and remained in jail. At their court appearance on January 8, Edwin Steiner's charges were dropped. Tom Joyce is non-cooperating, and is still in the D.C. Jail (D.C. Detention Center; 1901 D Street; Washington, D.C. 20003).

Inside & Out

Released from prison during the Christmas season were:

Pantex protestors: Larry Rosebaugh, 12/18/81 and Ladon Sheats, 12/24/81.

White House protestors: George Veasey and Louie De Benedette.

White House and Trident protestor: Peter DeMott

Remaining in prison are:

John Shiel (ten months)

Mike Miles (six months)

Karl Smith (six months)

All three are being held at the D.C. Detention Center; 1901-D Street; Washington, D.C. 20003.

Plowshares Eight:

John Schuchardt; Western SCI; Box 9901; Pittsburgh, PA 15233. (serving 3-10 years)

Elmer Maas; Graterford SCI; Box 244; Graterford, PA 19426. (serving 1 1/2-5 years)

Carl Kabat; Rockview SCI; Box A; Bellafonte, PA 16823 (serving 3-10 years)



Shoreham

Trials in late September were held for some of the 149 people arrested in September, 1980, at the Shoreham nuclear power plant on Long Island, New York. As a result, on October 2, four people - Frederick Pickering, Kathleen Boylan, Norman Lehle, and Barbara Stern - were sentenced to five days in jail. Five others received sentences of time served (up to five days in the case of Joe Paparatto), and one defendant, Jacob Aftel, received a \$250 fine. Charges against about one hundred other demonstrators were conditionally dismissed then, and on October 20, Charles Ewing's charges were dismissed at the beginning of his separate trial. The four sentenced to jail terms did not end up spending any time in jail due to credit for time already served and jail policies. See "Future Actions" (page 4) for more information about the continuing resistance at Shoreham.

Trident Resistance Bangor

Tina Lowe; Federal Correctional Institution; Box 1000; Pleasanton, CA was sentenced November 16, 1981, to six months in jail for her trespass at the Trident Submarine base in Bangor, Washington in October, 1979. She was given jail time when she refused to sign a statement promising not to trespass at the base again.

Groton

On November 9, 1981, members of the Covenant Peace Community, 66 Edgewood Avenue; New Haven, Connecticut entered through an unlocked door of the Electric Boat Administration Building, Groton, Connecticut, to protest the building and commissioning of Trident subs.

Judy Beaumont, Christopher Grannis, Dean Hammer, Art Laffin, Anne Montgomery and Elin Schade threw blood on a mural of the USS Ohio and ashes on the steps. A cross was laid on the threshold, and blood was poured upon it.

The six were charged with criminal mischief (1-5 years/\$5000 fine) and criminal trespass (1 year/\$1000 fine). On January 6, 1982, through the efforts of Judy Beaumont's attorney, John Gill, the case was switched to Judge Ripley, New London Superior Court, New London, Connecticut, before whom three motions were filed. A ten day extension of time to file motions of discovery was granted, and motions to dismiss the criminal trespass charge and move to a trial by jury are being considered. Arguments will be heard on all motions on January 28, and it is expected that a trial date will be set at that time.

A supporter indicated that Prosecutor Harold Dean is pressing the heavy charges to frighten other protestors and that his over-reaction was somewhat tempered by the presence of Attorneys Gill and Ramsey Clark, who is defending Art Laffin.

G.E. five Update

"We come into this G.E. Headquarters with a simple affirmation of life: 'Thou Shalt Not Kill!' We embrace this affirmation as a call to disrupt G.E.'s deadly work. We act today in hope, with the belief that Mark 12A's can be stopped, that disarmament can happen, that human beings can make peace." With this statement, five members and friends of the Brandywine Peace Community entered the General Electric Re-entry Division Headquarters in Philadelphia, and poured their own blood on a locked door and hallway of the restricted area. The five face a maximum penalty of 51 years imprisonment and go to trial March 15, 1982 at the Philadelphia City Hall.

William Hartman, Janice Hill, Roger Ludwig, Robert M. Smith and Thelma Stoudt invite friends and supporters to the trial and to related events. For more information, or to send needed contributions or letters of support, contact the Brandywine Peace Community; 51 Barren Road; Media, PA 19063; 215-565-0247.

Calloway

Last March 28, thirty-eight members of the Crawdad Alliance were arrested as they trespassed on the site of the Calloway (Missouri) nuclear power plant. At the trials of the twenty-one participants who plead not-guilty, all were found guilty. Most defendants are appealing.

In the first trial last August, defendant Willie Maxwell was convicted by a jury and sentenced by Judge Milt Harper to thirty days in jail. A later group of defendants waived their right to separate trials by jury in return for Harper's assurance that he would allow evidence on the dangers of nuclear power to be presented in open court. Instead of keeping his word, the judge cut short the presentation of such evidence after viewing less than one third of the video-taped expert testimony, skimmed the written documents, and refused to hear live testimony of expert witnesses who had traveled hundreds of miles. After finding the protestors guilty, Harper sentenced them each to four months in jail and a \$400 fine, "generously" suspending all but fourteen days of the sentence and \$200 of the fine, on the condition that those convicted not travel within a half-mile of the nuke site for two years. None of those convicted are in jail at this time, as far as we know. For more information, please contact the Crawdad Alliance; Box 9182; St. Louis, MO 63117.

added note: Union Electric, owner of the Calloway nuke, has cancelled plans for construction of a second unit at the site.

All we are saying,
is give peace
a chance~

John Ono Lennon

Rocky Flats (cont.)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

responded that if he could sit down and talk to the judge over a cup of coffee, he'd be happy to return. Weinshienk replied that a court reporter and the U.S. attorney would have to be present also. Peter then informed her that if it meant coming back to accomodate the demands of the court and its laws, then, no, he could not promise to return. The others voiced similar sentiments, and thanked the judge for her demonstrated compassion for the sincerity of their acts, and her concern for their welfare in jail. Finally, defeated in her attempt to "free" them within the confines of the law she enforces, she expressed that the five had given her "great difficulty" and that she didn't want them in jail, did not think they

December 28 Actions (cont.)

Strategic Air Command/Omaha

To commemorate the Feast of the Holy Innocents and witness to the potential holocaust that Offutt Air Base represents, twenty persons illegally entered the base in Omaha, Nebraska on December 28 to deliver a message of peace. In their statement, they said, "Today, twenty of us, motivated by faith and inspired by hope, feel compelled to enter SAC to urge the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff to stop targetting our sisters and brothers. The group was taken into military custody, given ban letters and released in several hours.

Twelve members of the group who had previously been "banned and barred" may still face criminal prosecution with a maximum penalty of six months/\$500 fine. Their names are followed with an asterick (*) directly below.

Arrested were Frank John Cardiello*, Joyce V. Glenn*, Fr. Darrell Rupiper, O.M.I., Sr. Joyce Horbach, O.S.F., Sr. Mary Ann Kress, N.D., Fr. John Zeitler, Rev. Chester Guinn, Kristin Layng*, Janette Funaro, Duane Grady, William A. Bassinger*, Mike Sprong, Jerry Mehalovich*, Wayne Zeberman*, John M. LaForge*, Barb Katt*, Mary Strunk, Eden Strunk (20 months old), Brent Vanderlinden*, Nanci LaMusga*.

Fifty people participated in a religious service outside the fence, recognizing the suffering of innocents today as a result of the government's diverting of funds from human needs to continue the arms race.

After being released from custody, two of the women arrested, Kristin Layng and Nanci LaMasga, re-entered the base unnoticed and were able to hand deliver the group's statement.

Concord

Also on January 28, three religious activists climbed the fence at the Concord Naval Weapons Base near San Francisco, a storage site for nuclear arms. The three, Bob Russell, Clancey Dunigan and Sunshine Applebee, stopped inside the base to pray and were arrested there. All three were released on their own recognizance, and will be on trial in late January. For more information, and to express your support, please contact the Bartimaeus Community; 2118 8th Street; Berkeley, CA 94710.

should be there, but that she had no other choice than to remand them to jail until their trial on March 1.

Letters of support can be sent to Hedy Sawadsky, Ann Zook, Kris Selvig, Jennifer Haines and Peter Spunger-Froese at Denver County Jail; Box 1108; Denver, CO 80201.

A supporter of the five notes that Judge Weinshienk does indeed have a choice other than to send the five back to jail. She herself could quit the bench and refuse the role of enforcing U.S. nuclear war policy by punishing those who resist it. Letters supporting the five and encouraging the judge to exercise her human choice by refusing to take part in the trial can be sent to Judge Zita Weinshienk; U.S. Federal Courthouse; Denver, CO.

Future Actions

Three Mile Island

The following letter, received from a currently jailed activist, provides an appropriate introduction for the many future resistance actions noted below:

"Dear Friends:

...word of upcoming actions with the implied invitation to participate is the only way we will continue to widen the prison gates. In my own opinion, one's resistance activity is increased in prison as rhetoric becomes conviction and that conviction sets fire to other lives. I concede that the nature of prison can crush the spirit of those interned, but these are serious times and we must not be surprised if there are casualties along the way. If we don't wage peace with the same tenacity as those who wage war, we will never make it..."

Mike Miles (currently in
D.C. Jail)

Livermore Lab

The Livermore Action Group (previously Livermore-Nevertmore); 2110 1/2 Ashby Avenue; Berkeley, CA 94704; 415-841-7994, has planned a rally for January 30. Plans are being made for a blockade of the Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab, Berkeley, on February 1. Approximately fifty people have expressed a willingness to do civil (dis) obedience.

Shoreham

In the fall of 1982, the Shoreham nuclear power plant, under construction on Long Island, New York, will be the site of a large encampment and teach-in, building towards a mass civil (dis) obedience action in the spring of 1983. The Stop Shoreham Campaign is asking people who want to work towards these events to come to a planning conference on February 6, 1982, in New York City. The day, from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., will be devoted to forming and developing small working groups which are essential for the success of the campaign. For more information and to make arrangements to attend, please contact SHAD Alliance; 339 Lafayette Street; N.Y., N.Y. 10012.

Mobe to Save the Heartland

The Mobilization to Save the Heartland is a coordinated series of significant events from Kansas, Nebraska and through to Illinois scheduled from August to October of 1982, confronting the issues of war, poverty and racism in the heartland of this country. Rallies, marches, conferences, forums and civil (dis) obedience will focus on issues of nuclear weapons policy, nuclear power, death penalty and prison reform, agribusiness and the draft, and how they all affect the heartland. For more information, please contact Mobilization to Save the Heartland; 962 Warder, St. Louis, MO 63130 (314) 726-4662.

General Public Utilities, owners of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant, have petitioned the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for permission to restart reactor Unit 1, which was undamaged by the March 18, 1979 accident there. Many groups in the area of the plant have joined together in a "Stop the Restart" campaign, a final effort to influence the NRC decision through conventional political channels. In the event that these legalistic channels fail, members of the March 28th Coalition are organizing for non-violent direct action at TMI to prevent the restart. If you or your group is interested in participating in or supporting the action, please contact March 28 Coalition; P.O. Box 481; Harrisburg, PA.

Rocky Flats

Religious activists opposing the production of nuclear weapons at Rocky Flats, Colorado, will be gathering in a "Peace Revival", July 19-24 at a site near the plant. They will retreat to a camp in the foothills of the Rockies, very near the plant, and plan direct action against the factory of death. If you want to participate or desire more information, please contact Peace Revival; 5927 Miller Street; Arvada, CO 80004.

UN Special Session on Disarmament II

Plans are underway for a wide variety of public education and action focusing on the Second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament (SSD), which is scheduled for June 9 - July 7 at the U.N. in New York City. Civil (dis) obedience actions at the missions of the nuclear nations are being planned, along with mass public rallies. Information about plans for the c.d. actions is available from C.D. Task Force; Campaign for the SSD; c/o 194 Park Place #4; Brooklyn, NY 11238. General information about other plans for the SSD is available from Campaign for the SSD; c/o 48 St. Marks Place; N.Y., NY 10003, (212) 533-0008.

W.P.A. Update

Three women who had been sentenced in December to ten and thirty days in jail for their part in the second Women's Pentagon Action (NNNPSC #9) were released on Christmas Eve, December 24. All had been sentenced by Judge Grimsley, and their early release was described as a Christmas present from the judge. Many women who entered pleas of no contest in Alexandria, Virginia, immediately following their arrest, have had their cases transferred to other jurisdictions in New York City, Massachusetts, North Carolina and Vermont. Although many of these women are still awaiting sentencing, a federal magistrate in New York has consistently sentenced women appearing in front of her to time served. At this writing, we know of no women currently in jail for the Women's Pentagon Action. For more information, please contact WPA; Box 9306; Washington, D.C. 20005.

Cruise Missile Opposition

Yes, even Canadian industry is involved in essential production for nuclear war. The Cruise Missile Conversion Project; 730 Bathurst Street; Toronto, Ontario M5S 2R4; Canada (416) 532-6720 has held vigils, rallies and demonstrations at Litton System offices in Toronto, producers of the guidance system for the Cruise missile. Two civil (dis) obedience actions have been held there as well, resulting in the arrests of thirteen people last April 16, and twenty-two more on November 11, 1981. We will have more information on their resistance activity in our next issue.

Gaudete Peace Center

Gaudete Peace Center director, Helen Woodson, who has assisted with this newsletter, will be publishing a monthly newsletter concerned with civil disobedience, tax resistance, draft registration refusal, and communities of resistance. The focus will be on the religious aspect of resistance. If you would like to receive this free publication, write the Gaudete Center; 634 Spruce Street; Madison, WI 53715.

Arms Bazaar Update

The last trial for those who participated in civil (dis) obedience at last fall's Nuclear Arms Bazaar, concluded Monday, January 11 in Washington, D.C. The remaining eight defendants received suspended thirty day sentences and one year's probation, on the condition that they perform 25 hours of community service during that time.

Hiroshima Day Action

Just for the record, a Hiroshima Day civil (dis) obedience action at the Mather Air Force Base near Sacramento, California (a suspected nuclear weapons storage site) resulted in five-day jail terms being served by Dan Delaney and Brian Flagg, of the Sacramento Catholic Worker hospitality house.

Correspondence Wanted

The prisoners listed below have recently written to us asking for correspondence.

Clyde Kondracik #34599
Box 351
Waupun, WI. 53963

Richard Grennier
Box 147
Fox Lake, WI. 53933

We're Moving Soon

The editing and production of the NNNPSC Newsletter will be moving to sunny Arizona soon. Friends who have given valuable assistance to the publication here in Madison will continue, for the time being, to empty the post office box, maintain the mailing list and forward information about actions on to Arizona. We hope to have our new address on the next Newsletter, so please look for it! Until then, please keep corresponding through NNNPSC; Box 1812; Madison, WI 53701.

We welcome and encourage other publications to reprint the information in this newsletter. Just please remember to give credit to NNNPSC as the source.
Thanks!

____ I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NNNPSC NEWSLETTER

____ I CAN HELP COORDINATE SUPPORT ACTIVITY IN MY AREA

____ I CAN KEEP NNNPSC INFORMED OF LOCAL ANTI-NUCLEAR ACTIONS AND JAILINGS

____ I WOULD LIKE TO PLEDGE \$ _____ PER MONTH TO SUPPORT NNNPSC

____ I WOULD LIKE TO CORRESPOND WITH PRISONERS OTHER THAN RADIOACTIVISTS

____ HERE IS MY DONATION OF
\$50 \$20 \$10 \$5 \$ _____

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....STATE.....ZIP.....

PHONE NUMBER.....

PLEASE RETURN TO:

NNNPSC
BOX 1812
MADISON, WI 53701

NNNPSC - Who we are, what we do

The National No-Nukes Prison Support Collective is a support network for jailed and imprisoned anti-nuclear activists. With information and funds provided by subscribers-members, we publish this Newsletter, which (we hope) provides comprehensive information about the arrests and jailing of anti-nuclear activists around the nation. People receiving the Newsletter are asked to write letters of support to those behind bars, and, when necessary, letters protesting the treatment and conditions of confinement to appropriate authorities.

Our goals include:

- Fostering a wider public awareness of imprisoned nuclear resisters, their motivations and their actions, through both movement and straight media.
- To build a link between the anti-nuclear movement and the prison movement, with the aim of educating radioactivists about the daily destruction of lives in the prisons of this country.

In any significant movement for social change, many committed individuals are jailed or imprisoned. In jail, they are physically isolated from their supporters and their own resistance activity is limited. Support for the imprisoned activist is essential to the success of the movement for a nuclear-free future.

To continue this work, we need donations for postage, printing and a few long distance phone calls. The Newsletter is free, and all labor is volunteered. We just want to get the word out, and help others show their support.

If you are interested in active support of jailed resisters, primarily through letter-writing, please let us know. A coupon for this purpose is included inside.



NATIONAL NO-NUKES
PRISON SUPPORT COLLECTIVE
BOX 1812
MADISON, WI 53701

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