



VETERANS FOR PEACE

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October 31, 2015



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Re: *The Republic of the Marshall Islands v. The United States of America et. al.* , Case No. 1515636

To Molly C. Dwyer, Clerk of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit:

On July 22, 2015, Physicians for Social Responsibility; International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War; and Pax Christi (PSR/IPPNW/Pax Christi) filed an amicus brief in support of Appellant with the consent of all the parties.

Pursuant to the Ninth Circuit Advisory Committee Note to Ninth Circuit Rule 291, Veterans For Peace, Inc., hereby joins the arguments and factual statements made in the amicus brief filed in the above referenced actions by PSR/IPPNW/Pax Christi.

Veterans For Peace (VFP) was organized in 1985, as a 501(c)3 educational nonprofit corporation. VFP not only has chapters and members throughout the United States, but in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Mexico, Vietnam, South Korea, Canada, Australia and Okinawa. Since 1991, VFP has been and continues to be the only veterans organization recognized and represented as a nongovernmental organization (NGO) at the United Nations and holds a permanent seat at the United Nations. As veterans who have dutifully served our nation in all wars and conflicts from World War II up to and including our current wars in the Middle East, we believe we have a greater duty to serve the cause of world peace. Our mission is to (1) increase public awareness of the total costs of war; (2) restrain our government from intervening overtly or covertly in the internal affairs of other nations; (3) end the arms race, reduce and ultimately eliminate nuclear weapons; (4) seek justice for veterans and victims of war; and (5) abolish war as an instrument of foreign and national policy. We seek these goals through nonviolent means for the greatest of causes world peace.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michael T. McPhearson

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ORGANIZED LOCALLY. RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONALLY. EXPOSING THE TRUE COSTS OF WAR SINCE 1985.

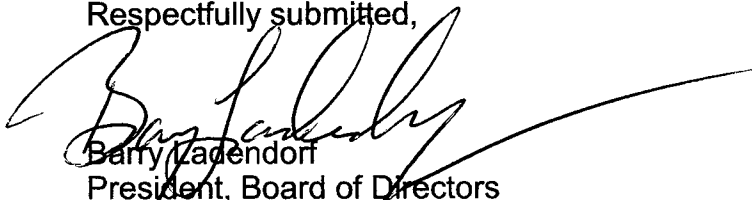
Undoubtedly, no other group, individual or organization in support of the above listed amici, has witnessed or experienced the destructive power of nuclear weapons as have members of VFP. Nor is there likely any other group in support of the above amici who have been trained in the delivery of the cataclysmic weapons which comprise the nuclear arsenal of the United States. Based on our collective training and experience, we recognize the imperativeness of eliminating nuclear weapons if there is to be any possibility of a peaceful future for the peoples of the world.

VFP joins in the argument of amici PSR/IPPNW/Pax Christi that nuclear war is not a far off unlikely event, nor is it remote and speculative. PSR/IPPNW/Pax Christi Brief at 11. With the plethora of intentional and accidental events detailed in the amici brief, and with the inevitable miscalculations inherent in military operations, nuclear war becomes more not less likely to occur. Moreover, the amicus brief shows the alarming willingness of five presidents to seriously consider the use of nuclear weapons. Even to this day, every United States president confronted with a military crisis has warned potential adversaries that "everything is on the table," meaning nuclear weapons are available and ready to be deployed if considered necessary. How can the only nation to use nuclear weapons against another nation in time of war not be taken seriously? President Kennedy was correct when he said, "at any moment by accident or miscalculation or by madness," nuclear weapons could abolish us all. PSR/IPPNW/Pax Christi Brief at 4.

As veterans who took an oath to preserve and protect the Constitution of the United States, we expect our government to live up to its treaty obligations as part of the supreme law of the land.

Accordingly, for these reasons and those more fully stated in the arguments of amici curiae, Veterans For Peace requests this Honorable Court reverse the Federal District Court's decision to dismiss this case.

Respectfully submitted,



Barry Madendorf
President, Board of Directors
Veterans For Peace
Lieutenant U.S. Navy (196469)

Appendix B – Proof of Service

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT**

The Republic of the Marshall
Islands,
Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

The United States of America
et. al.,
Defendants-Appellees.

U.S.C.A. No. 15-15636

U.S.D.C. No. C 14-01885 JSW
Northern District of California,
San Francisco

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on November 2, 2015, I mailed the foregoing document by first-class mail, postage prepaid, or have dispatched it to a third party commercial carrier for delivery within 3 calendar days to the following participants:

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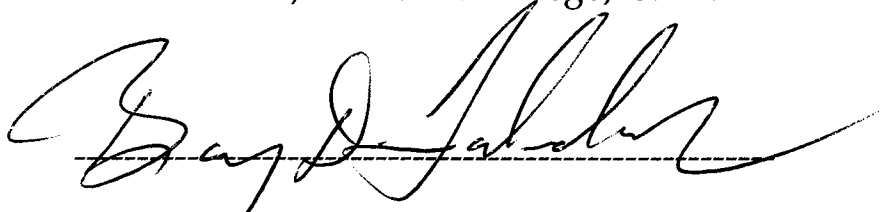
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I certify that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on November 2, 2015 at San Diego, California.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry D. Ladendorf", written over a horizontal dashed line.

Barry D. Ladendorf