

# THE SUNflower



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

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## Perspectives

### **Ten Serious Flaws in Nuclear Deterrence Theory**

by David Krieger

Nuclear deterrence is the threat of nuclear retaliation for a proscribed behavior, generally an attack upon the threatening state. The theory of nuclear deterrence posits that such threat, if perceived as real and likely to cause sufficient devastation, will prevent an attack or other proscribed behavior from occurring.

I will examine below what I believe are ten serious flaws in nuclear deterrence theory, flaws that lead to the conclusion that the theory is unstable, unreliable and invalid.

To read more, [click here](#).

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### **Santa Barbara Declaration: Reject Nuclear Deterrence**

Nuclear deterrence is a doctrine that is used as a justification by nuclear weapon states and their allies for the continued possession and threatened use of nuclear weapons.

Before another nuclear weapon is used, nuclear deterrence must be replaced by humane, legal and moral security strategies. We call upon people everywhere to join us in demanding that the nuclear weapon states and their allies reject nuclear deterrence and negotiate without delay a Nuclear Weapons Convention for the phased, verifiable, irreversible and transparent elimination of all nuclear weapons.

To read the full declaration and add your name to the statement, [click here](#).

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## **US Nuclear Weapons Policy**

### **US Planning for a New Nuclear Triad**

The US appears to be moving ahead with plans to build new submarines and airplanes that carry nuclear weapons. While there has been much talk of a new land-based Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) as well, there was no funding for this research in the 2012 budget released last month.

The 2012 budget includes \$197 million for research and development on a new Air Force long-range bomber, which will potentially be unmanned. The budget also includes \$1.07 billion to develop a new ballistic missile submarine.

Thompson, Mark, "A New Nuclear Triad?", *TIME*, February 13, 2011.

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## **Nuclear Proliferation**

### **Pakistan Demands Atomic Trade with Japan**

Asif Ali Zardari, President of Pakistan, has called on Japan to engage in civilian atomic trade with his country. "If Japan is willing to cooperate with India in nuclear technology and [is] giving nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, I do not see any reason why we should not deserve the same," said Zardari.

In 2008, the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) approved an exemption to allow nuclear trade with India. Prior to this exemption, NSG rules prohibited nuclear trade with countries that have not signed the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. No such exemption has been approved by the NSG for Pakistan.

"Pakistan Demands Atomic Trade With Japan," *Global Security Newswire*, February 22, 2011.

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## **China Says There Are No Limits on Expansion of Its Nuclear Arsenal**

Diplomatic cables published recently by Wikileaks quote Ma Xiaotian, Deputy Chief of China's People's Liberation Army, as telling US Defense and State Department officials in June 2008 that the growth of China's nuclear forces was an "imperative reality" and there could be "no limit on technical progress."

While Ma said that "it is impossible for China to change its decades-old way of doing business to become transparent using the US model," he also said that Beijing's nuclear posture has "always been defensive" and that China would "never enter into a nuclear arms race."

"No Limit to Expansion of Nuke Arsenal: China," *Sify News*, February 28, 2011.

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## **Nuclear Insanity**

### **National Archives Unearths Movie Depicting Nuclear War**

A movie entitled "The Power of Decision" was recently found at the National Archives. The hour-long film, produced by the US Air Force, provides a chilling view of what might have happened in a nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The movie starts with a first strike by the Soviet Union that causes 60 million casualties. But an undaunted character in the film asserts that although a nuclear war is a catastrophe for both sides, you can still have success. The United States suffers terrible losses: 60 million casualties including 20 million wounded. The industrial areas of several cities are destroyed, including New York, Detroit and Chicago. Other cities such as St. Louis, Denver and Seattle suffer severe damage and high casualties. However, because of the powerful second strike delivered by the United States in the movie, the Soviets plead for a cease fire and the Americans declare "victory."

Everly, Steve, "National Archives Unearths Movie Depicting Nuclear War," *Kansas City Star*, February 20, 2011.

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### **Would You Drop the Bomb?**

A new interactive exhibit at the Madame Tussauds wax museum in Washington, D.C., asks visitors whether they would push the button to launch a nuclear attack against Hiroshima during World War II. The exhibit, targeted at young people, does not explain the effects of using nuclear weapons, such as hundreds of thousands of deaths and widespread radioactive fallout.

Dan Togoski, the general manager of the museum, said, "It's just a fun interactive. I don't think we should take anything too seriously...for kids to run around and press buttons and hear sirens go off, they tend to get a little excited."

Steinmetz, Katy, "Would You Drop the Bomb? D.C. Madame Tussauds Exhibit Puts Kids on the Spot," *TIME*, February 25, 2011.

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## **Nuclear Testing**

### **North Korea May Be Preparing for New Nuclear Test**

North Korea is excavating new tunnels at the site where it previously carried out two nuclear test

detonations, raising concerns that a third blast could be in the works.

In spite of this report, South Korean President Lee Myung-bak called for new dialogue with North Korea, saying that 2011 was an "appropriate time" for Pyongyang to alter its trajectory. "I would like to give North Korea the message that we are always open [to talks] and [it has] a good chance this year," the president said.

"North Korea Seen Preparing for Possible Third Nuclear Test," *Global Security Newswire*, February 22, 2011.

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## Nuclear Energy and Waste

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### Testing Radioactive Cleanup

Scientists are testing animals on the Savannah River nuclear weapons site to assess the progress that is being made in cleaning up the environmental disaster caused by decades of nuclear weapons production. For decades after the site opened in 1951, workers often dumped contaminated waste in unmarked pits with no controls to keep it from spreading into soil and groundwater.

Savannah River Site has 37 million gallons of highly radioactive waste stored in underground tanks, many of which are seen as high risks for leakage because they have just a single wall and no external liner. The Energy Department, which now controls the nuclear weapons program, estimates that cleaning up the pollution across all current and former weapons production sites could take 70 years and cost \$300 billion or more.

Blake, Jeff, "Testing Toxic Cleanups, One Gator at a Time," *USA Today*, February 2, 2011.

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## Resources

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### Toward a World of Dignity for All

Daisaku Ikeda, President of Soka Gakkai International, recently released his peace proposal for 2011, *Toward a World of Dignity for All: The Triumph of the Creative Life*. In it, Ikeda calls for global civil society to address two key challenges of our time: abolishing nuclear weapons and building a global culture of human rights. He states, "It is no longer enough simply to sound the warning: the time has come for action and solidarity."

To read President Ikeda's proposal in greater detail, [click here](#).

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### Nuclear Energy Still Not Viable Without Subsidies

A new report by the Union of Concerned Scientists shows that the nuclear power industry continues to be economically unviable without taxpayer subsidies and excessive charges to utility ratepayers. The report shows that often subsidies to the nuclear fuel cycle have exceeded the value of the power produced, meaning that it would have been cheaper to buy power on the open market and give it away for free than to subsidize the construction and operation of nuclear power plants.

The report is particularly timely as companies in the United States and around the world seek government subsidies to build new nuclear power plants.

To read the full report, [click here](#).

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## Foundation Activities

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### **10th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on Humanity's Future**

On February 17, Commander Robert Green delivered the 10th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on Humanity's Future at Santa Barbara City College. The title of his talk was "Breaking Free from Nuclear Deterrence." In the conclusion of his lecture, he said:

"A surprisingly small network of individuals drove the campaign to abolish slavery. As with nuclear deterrence, slavery's leading apologists were the power elites of the United States, Britain and France. They argued that slavery was a "necessary evil," for which there was "no alternative." They failed, because courageous ordinary British, American and French citizens mobilized unstoppable public and political support for their campaign to replace slavery with more humane, lawful and effective ways to create wealth. The analogy holds for nuclear deterrence, which can and must be discarded for more humane, lawful and safer security strategies if civilization and the Earth's ecosystems are to survive."

To read Commander Green's full lecture, [click here](#).

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### **NAPF Paid Summer Internships: Deadline March 15**

The March 15 application deadline for paid internship positions at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Santa Barbara office is quickly approaching. Each summer, the Foundation welcomes three to four outstanding university students from around the country to work full-time for peace.

[Click here](#) for a full description of the internship program along with application instructions.

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### **NAPF Video Contest Now Accepting Entries**

The 2011 Swackhamer Disarmament Video Contest is now accepting entries. Contestants must make a video of three minutes or less addressing the following topic:

How would the world look if the funds allocated to nuclear weapons throughout the Nuclear Age (\$7.5 trillion for the US alone) had been spent instead on building a more decent world?

[Click here](#) for more information on the contest.

To see the videos submitted to the contest so far, visit the [contest Facebook page](#).

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### **NAPF Conference on the Dangers of Nuclear Deterrence**

On February 16-17, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation hosted a conference exploring the dangers of nuclear deterrence. Participants came from around the United States and as far away as New Zealand. The conference culminated in a statement called the "[Santa Barbara Declaration](#)," which is now open for public signature.

[Click here](#) for more information on the conference, including papers written by many of the participants for

the conference.

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## Peace Leadership Lectures Around the United States

NAPF Peace Leadership Program Director Paul Chappell is once again touring the United States, delivering lectures and workshops on peace leadership. This Spring, Paul will travel to Washington, DC, Ohio and Massachusetts in addition to numerous speaking engagements in California. [Click here](#) to see if Paul is speaking in your area soon.

For more information on the Peace Leadership Program, [click here](#).

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## Quotes

“We spend more than any other country. The next closest is China. We spend seven times what they do. How about just cutting back to maybe only spending five or six times as much as China does?”

-- **Rep. Pete Stark**, D-CA, introducing a bill in the House of Representatives to freeze defense spending at 2008 levels.

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“Until North Korea abandons its nuclear program, South Korea, too, should consider at least the reintroduction of U.S. tactical nuclear weapons.”

-- **Chung Mong-joon** of South Korea's ruling Grand National Party.

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“Kansas City will be the only city in the world that owns a weapons plant - let alone a nuclear weapons plant. There is absolutely no reason to build this plant. This place will have ponds and bike paths, a suburban monument to nuclear weapons.”

-- **Chris Paine** of the Natural Resources Defense Council, referring to the new \$1 billion nuclear weapon parts plant under construction in Kansas City.

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