

THE SUNflower

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have died thus far, and many more Iraqi soldiers have been slaughtered. For the full article please see: http://www.napf.org/articles/03.04/0403krieger_victory.htm

MICHAEL MOORE SCORNS BUSH WHILE ACCEPTING OSCAR

After receiving an award for best documentary for *Bowling for Columbine*, a film on violence in American culture, Michael Moore made the following remarks:

“On behalf of our producers Kathleen Glynn and Michael Donovan from Canada, I'd like to thank the Academy for this.

“I have invited my fellow documentary nominees on the stage with us, and they're here in solidarity with me because we like nonfiction.

“We like nonfiction and we live in fictitious times.

“We live in the time where we have fictitious election results that elect a fictitious president.

“We live in a time where we have a man sending us to war for fictitious reasons.

“Whether it's the fiction of duct tape or fiction of orange alerts we are against this war, Mr. Bush.

“Shame on you, Mr. Bush, shame on you.

“And any time you got the Pope and the Dixie Chicks against you, your time is up.

Thank you very much.”

Perspective

THE MEANING OF VICTORY

By David Krieger, April 2, 2003

“Day by day we are moving closer to Baghdad. Day by day we are moving closer to victory.”

-George W. Bush, March 31, 2003

With these words, Mr. Bush sought to reassure the American people that his war plan is working, moving us closer to “victory.” As the United States continues its heavy and unrelenting bombing of Baghdad and other Iraqi cities, inflicting death and suffering on the Iraqi people we are supposedly liberating, we would do well to explore the meaning of victory. Thus far, few journalists, at least in the corporate mainstream US media, appear ready to do so. Those concerned with the path the war is taking might have added the following observations to Bush's statement.

Day by day we are killing more Iraqi civilians. One day U.S. forces bomb a marketplace, killing 62 civilians. Another day a car carrying women and children is fired on by U.S. troops, killing seven. An Iraqi mother describes watching her young children's heads severed from their bodies. According to news reports, some 500 to 700 Iraqi civilians

Take Action

ACT NOW TO STOP WAR AGAINST IRAQ: ORGANIZE A NONVIOLENT ACTION WORKSHOP

Now that war against Iraq has begun, the Foundation encourages you to join the thousands of people all over the world in taking nonviolent action to oppose the war. Remember that those involved with your action must be well informed in order to be effective, so organize a Nonviolent Action Workshop to maximize the impact of your action.

For a sample agenda, workshop guidelines, information sheets on civil disobedience, and general articles on nonviolence in relation to the current war visit our website at: <http://www.wagingpeace.org/new/getinvolved/directactionworkshop.htm>

TELL CONGRESS TO STOP NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT

The Nuclear Posture Review, released in December 2001, urges the development of new, more usable nuclear weapons. The Bush administration also continues to reserve the option of using nuclear weapons in the war currently being waged against Iraq. These dangerous policies bring the United States closer to using a nuclear weapon in combat.

Write or fax your Representative and Senators and tell them to oppose the development of new nuclear weapons. In particular urge them to:

-Work to cut the \$15.5 million proposed for pursuing a new nuclear bunker buster from the proposed budget (this project is formally referred to as the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator); and

-Oppose any attempt to repeal the current ban on the development of low-yield nuclear weapons (this legislation is also commonly known as the Spratt 1st amendment.)

To identify and find the contact information of your Representative please see: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>

To identify and find the contact information of your Senators please see: <http://www.senate.gov/>

War Against Iraq

SECOND U.N. RESOLUTION DENIED- US GOES TO WAR ANYWAY

On 19 March, after failing to secure the 9 votes needed for a second Security Council Resolution giving authority to use military force, the Bush administration officially announced the start of the war against Iraq. The announcement and assault contradicted a previous statement by President Bush publicly promising that the second resolution would come to a vote in the Security Council.

U.S. and British troops have reportedly met stronger than expected resistance from Iraqi troops and between 565 and 724 Iraqi civilians are estimated to have been killed thus far. Hundreds of thousands of protestors all over the world have continued to take to the streets opposing the war. The Arab League has condemned the war against Iraq and

called for an immediate withdrawal of foreign troops. Russia has called for a ceasefire.

The U.S. press has been heavily criticized for their coverage of the war, particularly for taking the majority of their information from the Pentagon and demonstrating far less objective coverage than is provided in foreign news sources.

Sources: *New York Times*, 23 March 2003; *Washington Post*, 25 March 2003; *Los Angeles Times*, 26 March, 2003

IRAQ POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION REMAINS UNPROVEN

In a report issued on 7 March, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) concluded that supposed evidence of Iraq's nuclear weapons program provided by the U.S. did not, in fact, withstand the Agency's scrutiny. There was, according to the IAEA, no indication that Iraq attempted to import aluminum tubes or to produce or import magnets for use in a centrifuge enrichment program. Documents provided by the US allegedly proving that Iraq had a contract with Niger to import Enriched Uranium were also found to be forgeries. In a *New Yorker* article, Seymour Hersh quoted a senior IAEA official as saying, "These documents are so bad that I cannot imagine that they came from a serious intelligence agency. It depresses me."

In addition to Mohamed ElBaradie's IAEA report there were several other leads from U.S. intelligence that did not prove fruitful for inspectors. Chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix reported that after intense inspections no mobile or underground biological or chemical laboratories were found, and satellite images provided by Secretary of State Colin Powell gave nothing but false leads. After inspectors fled Iraq they were reported to have expressed anger about chasing U.S. leads that went nowhere and wasted the inspectors' time.

As the war continues with no signs of weapons of mass destruction, suspicions concerning the credibility of the Bush admonition claims steadily increase. If and when U.S. forces do discover such weapons the credibility of the claims may be impossible to verify given the absence of inspectors and the poor track record of U.S. evidence.

Source: *Mercury News*, 18 March 2003; *Boston Globe*, 16 March 2003; *The New Yorker*, 31 March 2003

Nuclear Weapons

US DoD LOOKS TO LIFT BAN ON LOW YIELD NUCLEAR WEAPONS

On 4 March the Pentagon delivered its proposed 2004 Defense Authorization bill to Congress, two lines of which would repeal a 10 year ban on developing low-yield nuclear weapons. This repeal, which is likely to succeed in the GOP dominated house, would pave the way for the nation's nuclear weapons laboratories to begin investigating designs for new nuclear weapons with smaller yields that would be more likely to be used in a combat situation. Such research would also likely result in resumed nuclear testing. Many members of Congress have voiced their concern over the development, particularly Representative Ellen Tausher (D-CA).

Sources: *Global Security Newswire*, 7 March 2003; *Oakland Tribune*, 6 March 2003

US SENATE APPROVES ARMS TREATY; RUSSIAN DUMA DELAYS IN PROTEST

On 6 March the US Senate unanimously approved the bilateral Strategic Offensive Reduction Treaty with Russia, also known as the Moscow Treaty, with no amendments. Though all approved the treaty in the end, many Senators emphasized their criticism that the treaty did not go far enough. Two amendments to strengthen the treaty were proposed by Senator Carl Levin (D-MI) and Senator John Kerry (D-MA), but both were defeated.

The Russian Duma has indefinitely delayed ratification of the Moscow treaty, a vote which was scheduled for 18 March, in protest of the U.S.-led war against Iraq. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov has backed the delay fearing that the U.S.-led war could fuel unfair criticism of the pact. Sources: *Philadelphia Inquirer*, 27 March 2003; *Washington Post*, 19 March 2003; *Global Security Newswire*, 19 March 2003

IRAN ADVANCES NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY; UN AND RUSSIA VOICE CONCERN

On 17 March the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mohamed ElBaradei, announced that Iran has nearly completed its uranium enrichment plant, and called on Iranian government to agree to more intrusive inspections at its nuclear sites. Iran's political leaders, while divided on many fronts, continue to agree that their country has the right to develop nuclear weapons, though the current government denies pursuing such weapons.

Russia's atomic energy Minister, Alexander Romyantsev, conceded on 12 March that Russia could not be sure that Iran was not pursuing nuclear weapons. As Russia is aid-

ing Iran's nuclear development by constructing a nuclear power reactor in Bushehr in the face of U.S. opposition, Russia had previously insisted that Iran's nuclear program was strictly for peaceful purposes.

At the beginning of March, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell warned that Iran was much farther along with its nuclear weapons development program than previously thought. Bush has also extended US economic sanctions on Iran.

Sources: *Bellona*, 14 March 2003, *Washington Post*, 11 March 2003; *Reuters*, 4 March 2003; *The Guardian*, 18 March 2003

NORTH KOREA ALARMS UN AND RUNS INTO DELAYS WITH REPROCESSING

North Korea has ceased all communications with the United Nations Command that oversees the armistice along the demilitarized zone and pulled out of reconciliation talks with South Korea that had been scheduled to take place in Pyongyang. The Bush administration continues to resist North Korea's instance on direct bilateral talks on North Korea's nuclear program, insisting on a multilateral framework. A small delegation from North Korea, including its ambassador to the United Nations, attended meetings on the University of California Berkeley campus to discuss growing nuclear tensions on the Korean peninsula.

The Bush administration has also announced that despite efforts to accelerate the process, North Korea appears to be having trouble restarting the spent fuel reprocessing facility in Yongbyon. On 28 March Japan launched two spy satellites that will decrease the country's reliance on U.S. intelligence in assessing North Korea's weapons activities. Sources: *Washington Post*, 20 March 2003; *Korea Herald*, 26 March 2003; *Wall Street Journal*, 28 March 2003; *San Francisco Chronicle*, 14 March 2003

International Law

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT INAUGURATED

The world's first permanent war crimes tribunal was inaugurated on 11 March in the Hague, the capital of the Netherlands. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan presided as 18 international judges of the International Criminal Court took the oath of office. A 1998 accord, known as the Rome Treaty, established the International Criminal Court. The international court is scheduled to begin considering 200 complaints already filed. A chief prosecutor and staff are to be selected in April.

Source: *Washington Post*, 12 March 2003

Missiles & Missile Defense

PATRIOT MISSILE SYSTEM EXHIBITS FAILURES AND US MISSILES GO ASTRAY

A Patriot missile battery shot down a British Royal Air Force Tornado GR4 fighter near the Kuwaiti border, mistaking the fighter for an incoming Iraqi missile and killing both crew members. The British fliers were the first known friendly fire casualties of the war in Iraq. Days later a Patriot battery about 30 miles south of the Iraqi city of Najaf apparently "locked on" to an Air Force F-16 fighter and prepared to fire. Though the Pentagon is heralding the Patriot missile defense system as being extremely effective in protecting Kuwait from Iraqi missiles, Kuwaiti officials have noted its failures, pointing out the risks in putting too much confidence in the system.

Several U.S. missiles used in the war against Iraq have gone off course, some entering the territory of Turkey and Iran, others hitting areas filled with civilians, such as market places.

Sources: Wall Street Journal; 28 March 2003; Washington Post, 28 March 2003; Washington Post, 26 March 2003

INDIA AND PAKISTAN TEST MISSILES

In what was reportedly a surprise to Pakistani officials, India tested its most sophisticated short-range surface-to-surface missile on 28 March. The Prithvi missile has a range of 150km and can carry conventional and nuclear warheads of up to 1 ton. Pakistan also test-fired its own Abdali surface-to-surface missiles that has a range of up to 200km. Pakistani officials had, however, alerted India of their intention to test.

At a time of high tension and rising conflict in the Kashmir region, this incident highlights the risk of accidental nuclear war between India and Pakistan, particularly given the absence of any prevention of accidental nuclear war agreements such as those existing between the United States and Russia.

At the beginning of March, Pakistan inaugurated a new medium-range, nuclear-capable missile, the Shaheen I, which has a range of 450 miles and can carry nuclear warheads. Pakistan has also reportedly purchased fully assembled No Dong missiles from North Korea, which are nuclear-capable, have a range of up to 900 miles and can reach virtually every major Indian city.

Sources: Washington Post, 7 March 2003, Associated Press, 28 March 2003; Washington Post, 27 March 2003; BBC, 26 March 2003

NORTH KOREA CONDUCTS MISSILE TEST

North Korea test-fired a medium-range anti-ship missile at about noon on 10 March. The missile, a version of a Chinese-designed Silkworm, was launched from a site on the northeast coast of North Korea into the Sea of Japan. The test occurred a day after Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and the National Security Adviser, Condoleezza Rice, publicly rejected the idea of negotiations with the North in anything other than a multilateral setting.

Source: New York Times, 10 March 2003; Philadelphia Inquirer, 10 March 2003

RUSSIA TESTS AN INTER-CONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE

On 27 March, Russia flight-tested an 18-year-old SS-25 ICBM known as the Topol from the northwestern base Plesetsk at a target on the Kamchatka Peninsula. The missile was reportedly launched from a mobile unit, and, according to the Russian Strategic Missile Forces, hit the target in Kamchatka with "designed accuracy."

Source: Global Security Institute, 27 March 2003

Depleted Uranium

DEPLETED URANIUM WEAPONS USED IN WAR AGAINST IRAQ

According to the Scottish Sunday Herald, British and American coalition forces are using depleted uranium (DU) shells in the current war against Iraq. DU has been linked to contamination of land, causing ill-health and cancers among the soldiers using the weapons, the armies they target and civilians. According to an August 2002 report by a UN subcommission, the use of DU weapons breaches humanitarian and human rights law. On 28 March a DU shell was involved in a friendly fire incident that killed one British soldier and injured three others.

Source: Sunday Herald, 30 March 2003

SWEDEN TO HELP RUSSIA DISPOSE OF NUCLEAR WASTE

On 18 March, Swedish International Nuclear Safety Project representatives, the Murmansk Region and Russia's Ministry for Nuclear Power signed a contract to finance nuclear waste disposal projects based in the Murmansk Region, in Russia's North-West Federal District. Sweden is allocating \$500,000 to help Russia dispose of solid nuclear waste in Andreyev Bay. Yuri Yevdokimov, Murmansk's regional governor, stated, "The contract is symbolic as Sweden has never before been directly involved in Russian nuclear waste disposal." Another contract between Russia and Norway is expected to be signed in April.

Source: *RIA Novosti*, 20 March 2003

CHINA AGREES TO BUILD SECOND POWER PLANT IN PAKISTAN

China's Prime Minister Zafullah Jamali announced that China has agreed to assist in the construction of a second nuclear power plant in Pakistan. He said China would help Pakistan construct the plant at Chashma, where a 300-megawatt nuclear power station has already been built with Chinese assistance.

Source: *Washington Times*, 29 March 2003

Foundation News

DANIEL ELLSBERG SPEAKS AT FOUNDATION EVENT

On 13 March, Daniel Ellsberg spoke at an event sponsored by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation and The Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Religion and Public Life. The lecture, which was entitled "Iraq, Terrorism, and the Danger of Nuclear War," explored the frightening links between the Vietnam era White House discourse revealed in the Nixon tapes and the dialogue that is most likely occurring within the Bush administration regarding the U.S. led war against Iraq.

Daniel Ellsberg made news around the world in 1971 when he released the Pentagon Papers, a document that helped to bring about an end to the Vietnam War. He is the author of the recently published *Secrets: A Memoir of Vietnam and the Pentagon Paper*.

FOUNDATION COORDINATES IRAQ-U.S. STUDENT DIALOGUE

Foundation Peace Education Coordinator Leah Wells organized and facilitated a two hour conversation between U.S. students at the University of California, Santa Barbara and students in Baghdad on 17 March. The dialogue was a spirited and sometimes demanding as students expressed their desires to hear one another as international channels are shutting down.

The students exchanged information about their daily lives and engaged difficult issues such as weapons of mass destruction, the liberation of Iraqis and the human costs of war. The conversation ended on a positive note, with students sharing personal mottos, poetry and jokes. The recorded dialogue is available at :

http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/03.03/0317radio_dialogue.htm

FOUNDATION STAFF LOBBIES CONGRESS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUES

The Foundation's Research and Advocacy Coordinator, Devon Chaffee, joined the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability in lobbying U.S. Congress on nuclear weapons issues from 16-19 March. Devon advocated for the cutting of funding for new weapon designs and expanded test readiness while pushing for greater funding for the dismantlement of non-deployed nuclear warheads. She attended group meetings with the offices of several members of Congress including Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) and Senator John Kerry (D-MA).

STUDENTS PETITION REGENTS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS LABS

On 21 March, students from five University of California campuses spoke from in front of the UC Office of the President demanding that the Regents disarm and democratize the nuclear weapons labs. The students asserted that the Regents are accountable if the U.S. launches a nuclear attack on Iraq. Speakers also highlighted the UC Nuclear Free Statement of Unity calling for the Regents to get out of the nuclear weapons business, which has been endorsed by over 25 student and community groups in California and New Mexico.

A scheduled UC Regents meeting was cancelled early 20 March denying concerned students and community members the opportunity to directly address the Regents. Students are expected to address the Regents through teleconference on 3 April.

TWO MEMBERS OF THE FOUNDATION ADVISORY COUNCIL ARE ARRESTED IN PROTEST

Nobel Laureate Mairead Corrigan Maguire and Daniel Ellsberg, both members of the Foundation's Advisory Council, were arrested near the White House as they and other protestors called for an end to the war on Iraq. The protest, which was called by Paz Christi USA, marched from New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, where Abraham Lincoln once prayed, to Lafayette Park, where protestors scaled a police barricade and held a prayer service.

Maguire is co-founder of the Community of the Peace People in Northern Ireland. Jody Williams, a Nobel Laureate, Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of the Detroit Archdiocese and Bishop C. Joseph of the United Methodist Church in Chicago were also arrested.

SUPPORT THE NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

Support the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation by making a tax-deductible contribution at <https://www.ndic.com/wagingpeace/supportus.htm>. For a limited time donate \$35 or more and get a free t-shirt.

Resources

Oxford Research Group has recently published The FMCT Handbook: A guide to a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty, which is available in hard copy or in free pdf download from: <http://www.basicint.org/pubs/Papers/BP42.htm>

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War has released a useful report entitled Nuclear Bunker Busters: The Medical Consequences available at: <http://www.ippnw.org/NukeEPWsFull.html>

The Iraq Crisis and International Law: A Nuclear Age Peace Foundation Briefing Booklet edited by Foundation Chair, Richard Falk, and Foundation President, David Krieger can be found at: http://www.wagingpeace.org/pdfs/iraq_reader.pdf. Hard copies are also available.

Hope in a Dark Time, Reflections on Humanity's Future, a collection of essays by leading visionaries, activists and peace-builders from throughout the world edited by David Krieger with a foreword by Bishop Desmond Tutu, is available through Capra Press at: <http://www.caprapress.com>

Visit the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's updated Nuclear Files website. Visitors can now easily navigate the site,

take a journey through the Nuclear Age and learn about key issues. The site also contains a section for educators with sample course syllabi incorporating lessons from our nuclear history into the classroom. Visit the redesigned and user-friendly Nuclear Files at <http://www.nuclearfiles.org>

Visit the ever-evolving website of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation at <http://www.wagingpeace.org>. We encourage you to check in frequently at the New Items link on the home page, the Activities Calendar, the Action Page and all the other great sections on the site.

Quotable

"The President is merely the most important among a large number of public servants. He should be supported or opposed exactly to the degree which is warranted by his good conduct or bad conduct, his efficiency or inefficiency in rendering loyal, able, and disinterested service to the Nation as a whole. Therefore it is absolutely necessary that there should be full liberty to tell the truth about his acts, and this means that it is exactly necessary to blame him when he does wrong as to praise him when he does right. Any other attitude in an American citizen is both base and servile.

To announce that there must be no criticism of the President, or that we are to stand by the President, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public. "

*--President Theodore Roosevelt in an editorial for the
Kansas City Star, May 7, 1918*

Editors

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David Krieger

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