

THE SUN *flower*

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IMPORTANCE OF PEOPLE POWER THROUGH NONVIOLENT RESISTANCE TO END US LED OCCUPATION OF IRAQ

(On 3rd Anniversary Iraqi invasion, 20 March 2006, at the US Consulate, Belfast) by Mairead Corrigan Maguire

The US-led coalition has military might, but no moral authority, and is therefore incapable of solving the Iraqi crisis. Only the Iraqi people, and their friends around the world, using nonviolent resistance to end the occupation and all violence, can begin to solve Iraqi problems, and many of the problems facing the human family. People power, and nonviolent resistance to injustice and war, in Baghdad, Belfast, Birmingham, or Bethlehem, is the only power which works, because it upholds human life and human dignity, and reminds us we are brothers and sisters who need both justice and each other.

On this 3rd anniversary of the invasion and occupation of Iraq we gather together to remember all those who have been killed, and to call for an end to the US-led invasion and occupation. We call also for people to continue to mobilize and use nonviolent resistance to end the occupation of Iraq.

To read the full article, visit:

http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2006/03/20_maguire_importance-of-people-power.htm.

Perspectives

INDIA, IRAN AND US NUCLEAR HYPOCRISY

by David Krieger

The Bush administration has approached nuclear non-proliferation with Iran and India by two very different measures. Iran, a party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), has been threatened with sanctions, if not actual violence, for its pursuit of uranium enrichment, although there is no clear evidence that Iran is pursuing a nuclear weapons program. India, on the other hand, has now been offered US nuclear technology, although India is not a party to the NPT, is known to have tested nuclear weapons and is thought to possess a nuclear weapons arsenal of 60 to 100 weapons.

The Non-Proliferation Treaty, which entered into force in 1970, is at the heart of worldwide nuclear non-proliferation efforts. The US was one of the original signers of the treaty, and was one of the major supporters of its indefinite extension in 1995. The principal goal of the treaty is to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation by assuring that nuclear weapons and the materials and technology to make them are not transferred by the nuclear weapons states to other states.

To read the full article, visit:

http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2006/03/24_krieger_in_dia-iran-nuclear-hypocrisy.htm.

Take Action

URGE CONGRESS TO PRIORITIZE SPENDING FOR HUMAN NEEDS

Write and call your Representative and urge them to support H.R. 4898, the Common Sense Budget Act. Take action now at:

<http://capwiz.com/wagingpeace/issues/alert/?alertid=8564391&type=CO>.

Since 1998, government military spending has jumped almost 6 percent annually in real terms. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's 2005 Yearbook, "The major determinant of the world trend in military expenditure is the change in the USA, which makes up 47 percent of the world total." By 2007, US spending is expected to constitute more than half the total global military expenditure. Meanwhile, there are roughly 300 million people living in the United States and about 6.5 billion peo-

ple on the planet, meaning the US population is about 4.6 percent of the global total.

OVER HALF of the US discretionary budget goes towards Pentagon funding - nearly half a trillion dollars. For Fiscal Year 2007, President Bush wants to increase the Pentagon's budget by 7%, to \$463 billion. (This doesn't include the price of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, which have cost over \$300 billion since 2001.) Meanwhile, non-military discretionary spending in the FY 2007 budget is reduced by half a percent.

It does not make Americans secure to increase funding for the Department of Defense and the nuclear weapons portion of the Department of Energy while cutting other vital programs. The increasing funding of the military, both the Pentagon's regular budget and the substantial supplemental appropriations, is directly affecting families' ability to meet their day-to-day needs.

PROGRAM CUTS

The President has proposed cuts to 141 discretionary programs. The number of families living below the poverty level has increased for the fourth year; and these are living in even deeper poverty. Among the most egregious of suggested eliminations are Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Preventive Care Block Grant, Community Services Block Grant, and many education programs.

Significant cuts are proposed for programs such as Section 202 Housing for low-income elderly (26%), Child Care and Development Block Grant (\$1.03 billion) and Community Oriented Policing Services (79%). These provisions put families and communities at even greater risk than now experienced.

A COMMON SENSE APPROACH

On 8 March 2006, Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-CA) and fifteen other members of Congress introduced the Common Sense Budget Act. The legislation would divert \$60 billion from the Pentagon budget, and allocate it to social investment, renewable energy and humanitarian aid. Among the programs that would benefit:

- \$10 billion annually would go to provide health care coverage for millions of uninsured children.
- \$10 billion a year would be spent on modernizing schools.
- \$10 billion would be invested annually in renewable energy.
- \$13 billion would be spent every year on humanitarian foreign aid.

Take action today and tell your Representative to prioritize spending on human needs and co-sponsor H.R. 4898. Visit: <http://capwiz.com/wagingpeace/issues/alert/?alertid=8564391&type=CO>.

"Every gun that is made, every warship that is launched, every rocket that is fired signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those that are cold and not clothed."

-President Dwight Eisenhower

Proliferation

PRESIDENT BUSH REAFFIRMS DOCTRINE OF PREEMPTIVE WAR

On 16 March 2006, the White House released its National Security Strategy, which largely echoed a 2002 document and reaffirmed President Bush's doctrine of preemptive war against terrorists and hostile states with chemical, biological or nuclear weapons. The strategy lays out a robust view of America's power and an assertive view of its responsibility to bring change around the world. After weapons of mass destruction were not found in Iraq, an essential assumption of the original strategy was undermined - that intelligence about an enemy's capabilities and intentions can be sufficient to justify preventive war. President Bush defended the doctrine by deeming the preemptive use of force necessary for the US "when the consequences of an attack with WMD [weapons of mass destruction] are potentially so devastating, we cannot afford to stand idly by as grave dangers materialize." The document also specifies policies for certain countries, including China, Iran, North Korea and Russia.

A statement issued in response to the National Security Strategy by a broad range of Nobel Laureates, Past and Elect Presidents of the American Physical Society, members of the US National Academy of Sciences and Professors at US universities said, "This dangerous policy change ignores the fact that nuclear weapons are on a completely different scale than other WMD's and conventional weapons. Using a nuclear weapon pre-emptively and against a non-nuclear adversary crosses a line, blurring the sharp distinction that exists between nuclear and non-nuclear weapons, and heightens the probability of future use of nuclear weapons by others." They continued, "It provides a strong incentive for countries to abandon the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and pursue nuclear weapons themselves and dramatically increases the risk of nuclear proliferation, and ultimately the risk that regional conflicts will explode into all-out nuclear war, with the potential to destroy our civilization."

Without saying what action would be taken against them, the strategy singles out seven nations as prime examples of "despotic systems" - Belarus, Burma, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Syria and Zimbabwe. Iran and North Korea receive special attention because of their nuclear programs, and the strategy vows in both cases "to take all necessary measures" to protect the United States against them.

According to the document, "We may face no greater challenge from a single country than from Iran." It commits to efforts with European allies to pressure Iran to give up any aspirations of nuclear weapons, but ominously adds: "This diplomatic effort must succeed if confrontation is to be avoided."

While there is no similar language regarding confrontation with North Korea, which says it already has nuclear weapons, the country is accused of a "bleak record of duplicity and bad-faith negotiations," as well as counterfeiting US currency, trafficking in drugs and starving its own people.

To read the statement by Nobel Laureates, Past and Elect Presidents of the American Physical Society, members of the US National Academy of Sciences and Professors at US universities and view the complete list of signers, visit: <http://physics.ucsd.edu/petition/NationalSecurityStrategy.html>.

Source: Baker, Peter, "Bush to Restate Terror Strategy," *The Washington Post*, 16 March 2006.

Nuclear Legacy

REPORT BLAMES UK RADIATION INCREASES ON DEPLETED URANIUM USE IN IRAQ

A new report released in January 2006 in the UK finds that depleted uranium from shells used in the 2003 bombings in the Gulf War is thought to have been carried by wind currents all the way to Britain. Environmental scientists found radiation levels at five sites in Berkshire increased four-fold within nine days of the attacks. According to the report, "On two occasions, the levels exceeded the threshold at which the Environment Agency must be informed." However, the report also states that the levels were still within safety limits.

Government officials say the rise in uranium is a coincidence and the increase more likely came from a local source such as a power station, or perhaps from the natural uranium in the massive amounts of soil kicked up in the bombings. According to the UK Environment Agency, the detectors at other sites did not record a similar increase, which suggests that a local source caused the increased levels of radiation.

The depleted uranium shells, also called "silver bullets," used in the attacks on Iraq are controversial because of their potential to cause cancer. The American and British governments claim the risk for people in a conflict zone is "very low".

To read the full report on the increased uranium levels in Britain, visit: <http://www.llrc.org/aldermastrept.pdf>

Source: Gould, Mark and Ungeod-Thomas, Jon, "UK Radiation Jump Blamed on Iraq Shells," *The Sunday Times, Britain*, 19 February 2006.

CDC SAYS FALLOUT STUDY IS FEASIBLE

In 1998, the US Congress requested a report on the feasibility of studying health problems caused by fallout. In February 2006, the Center for Disease Control posted its final report, declaring that such a study is feasible. The report says that "an agency considering such a study should carefully weigh priorities" because, while a study would be "technically possible," it would require "significant resources" which might take away from other public health priorities. While such a study would be important for public health because it is likely there is an increased risk of cancer from fallout, the "increase is very small relative to the usual risk of cancer in the absence of fallout exposure."

The report refers to a study conducted at the University of Utah on the connection between thyroid abnormalities and fallout. This report was stopped in 2005, only two-thirds completed, because the CDC did not think it was of use. Now that the CDC's new report suggests such a study is, in fact, feasible and the study "could help to clarify the extent to which the Nevada tests increased the incidence of thyroid cancer."

The CDC report is available online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/radiation/fallout/default.htm>.

Source: Bauman, Joe, "CDC Posts Final Report on Fallout Study," *Deseret Morning News*, 15 February 2006.

Nuclear Insecurity

UK SECRETLY SOLD BOMB MATERIALS TO ISRAEL IN 1960S

On 9 March 2006, BBC Newsnight revealed during a television show that the UK provided secret sales of plutonium, uranium and heavy water to Israel in the 1960's when Harold Wilson was Prime Minister. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was misled by the Foreign Minister, and the Minister of Technology in office was not told about the sales. At the time, British intelligence warned that the sales "might make a material contribution to an Israeli weapons program."

The deal was made with a company called Noratom acting as the intermediary agent. This meant that Britain could say it had never actually signed a deal, because the contracts were ferried between the Israel and UK delegations by Noratom. It was known that Israel wanted the heavy water to produce plutonium and Israel "paid the full military price - £1 million (US\$1.75 million) - to avoid safeguards to stop the plutonium being used to make nuclear weapons."

Source: Jones, Meirion, "Secret Sale of UK Plutonium to Israel," *BBC Newsnight* 10 March 2006.

Nuclear Testing

US NUCLEAR WEAPON TEST IN 2005 REVEALED

On 14 March 2006, the Albuquerque Journal in New Mexico reported that the Sandia National Laboratories conducted a stress test on a nuclear weapon in March 2005. During the test, a B61 nuclear bomb was driven into the ground in what is described by the laboratory as "worst-case testing."

Similar tests have been performed at the Tonopah Test Range in Nevada. According to Marcey Abate, manager of the laboratory's Stockpile Evaluation Department, the March 2005 test at Sandia was more precise. She also said that the test was part of Sandia's mission to ensure that the US nuclear arsenal is reliable and safe.

The test was done at the Aerial Cable Test Facility located in the Manzano Mountains. The facility tests containers used to ship nuclear material by dropping them from great heights, simulating a violent crash.

Source: "U.S. Performed Nuclear Weapon Stress Test," Global Security Newswire, 15 March 2006.

Missiles and Missile Defense

PENTAGON SEEKING FUNDS FOR SPACE WEAPONS

The Pentagon's Fiscal Year 2007 budget request includes nearly one billion dollars for dual-use space weapons programs. The most alarming space programs include the Missile Defense Agency's Space Test Bed, the Near Field Infrared Experiment and Micro Satellite program, and the Air Force's Experimental Satellite Series and Autonomous Nanosatellite Guardian for Evaluating Local Space. In addition to the publicly disclosed programs that blur the line, analysts believe classified portions of the Pentagon budget request include a number of space-related weapons programs.

"Some of these things are going to be put up and tested and that is where you have the potential to cross the line" into creating actual space-based weapons systems, said Theresa Hitchens, director of the Center for Defense Information. Such space-based weapons systems are outlawed by the 1967 Outer Space Treaty.

Sources: "Space Weapons Could Emerge from Pentagon Budget," Center for Defense Information, 7 March 2006; Bender, Bryan, "Pentagon eyeing weapons in space," Boston Globe, 14 March 2006.

PENTAGON DEVELOPING ABILITY TO STRIKE QUICKLY ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD

In its fiscal year 2007 budget request, the Pentagon is asking Congress for \$500 million to develop two new long-range conventional missiles for use against rogue states or terrorist groups. The plan, called Prompt Global Strike, involves converting current nuclear armed missiles to hold conventional warheads. The new missiles would be capable of reaching anywhere in the world in one hour "after an order is given," and, because they would be able to penetrate the ground deeper than other conventional weapons, are a possible alternative to "bunker buster" nuclear weapons.

Defense officials say the missiles would "offer US leaders a conventional alternative to nuclear weapons in a distant crisis where speed is essential". However, because the missile could not be determined as nuclear or conventional using early-warning systems, other countries could interpret it as a nuclear strike and respond prematurely with their own nuclear strike.

Source: Tyson, Ann Scott, "Pentagon Seeks to Fund New Force of Conventional-Warhead Missiles," The Washington Post, 8 March 2006.

MISSILE TEST ROUNDUP

On 8 March 2006, North Korea test fired two short-range surface-to-air missiles. Reports conflicted as to the trajectory of the missiles, some saying the missiles fell to the earth near North Korea's border with China while other reports indicated the missiles were fired into the Sea of Japan.

Also, on 8 March, the US and Japan successfully test launched a Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) interceptor from the USS Lake Erie near Kauai, Hawaii. It was the first test of a SM-3 interceptor missile that had been modified with a nosecone developed by the Japanese, designed to more quickly release the interceptor's kill vehicle. The test launch did not involve an attempted intercept of a target missile.

On 21 March, Pakistan test fired its Babur/Hatf VII nuclear-capable cruise missile. The low-flying Babur, indigenous to Pakistan, has a range of 500 kilometers (311 miles).

According to a bulletin from the People's Liberation Army, China test launched a new interceptor missile on 26 March, successfully destroying a target missile. The Chinese interceptor missile is said to be similar in capacity to the American Patriot interceptor. According to the commanding officer who directed the test launch, "This marks the official launch of the interceptor missile unit. We can intercept not only high-flying reconnaissance planes or missiles but also low-flying targets. Our accuracy is significantly high as well."

During the first day of a series of military maneuvers on 31 March, Iran tested a Fajr-3 surface-to-surface missile. Some reports indicated the Fajr-3 could avoid radar, deliver multiple warheads and could travel 2,000 kilometers (1,243 miles), while other reports said the Fajr-3 was simply a rocket with a range of 50 kilometers (31 miles). Also during the week of military exercises in southern Iran, a high-speed underwater missile was tested. The Iranian Hoot, based on the Russian Shkval, is a torpedo that travels at more than 200 miles per hour underwater by creating a bubble of water vapor that encases the weapon and reduces drag, a process known as supercavitation. An Iranian Revolutionary Guard spokesman said the maneuvers were aimed at displaying "the country's defensive capabilities."

Sources: Tabuchi, Hiroko, "US Confirms N. Korea Missile Launches," Associated Press, 8 March 2006; Wolfe, Jim, "Experimental US-Japan Missile Tip Passes First Test," Reuters, 8 March 2006; "Pakistan test fires nuclear-capable cruise missile," Agence France Presse, 21 March 2006; Hwang, Yoo-Seong, "China Testing Missile Defense System," Donga News, 28 March 2006; Fathi, Nazila, "Iran Fires Versatile Missile in a 'Defensive' Test," New York Times, 1 April 2006; "Iran Says new Missile Test Successful," Associated Press, 3 April 2006.

Nuclear Energy & Waste

UK COMMISSION REPORT: NUCLEAR POWER NOT A VIABLE OPTION

In late 2005, UK Prime Minister Tony Blair launched a national energy review; an internal analysis of the UK's energy needs to decide by mid-2006 whether or not to "facilitate the development of a new generation of nuclear power stations."

In March 2006, Blair's own Sustainable Development Commission issued its findings as part of the government's energy review. The Commission concluded that a new nuclear program was not the answer to the twin challenges of climate change and energy security. On balance, the Commission said, the problems presented by nuclear energy outweigh the advantages. The Commission's report delivers a significant blow to the Prime Minister's push for a new generation of nuclear power plants. The report urges the government to expand the use of renewable power, promote energy efficiency and develop new technologies to counteract existing environmentally-unfriendly energy sources.

It remains unclear how Blair's government will respond. Another report commissioned by the government as part of the national energy review will be issued in two months. The forthcoming report, it is expected, will pave the way for a new generation of nuclear power stations.

In related news, the UK Nuclear Decommissioning Authority estimates the comprehensive decommissioning and cleanup of Britain's 20 civil nuclear sites will cost £14 billion (US\$24,488,487,247) more than a previous estimate, totaling £70 billion (US\$122,420,416,804). However, this estimate excludes decommissioning British Energy's seven nuclear power stations, the first of which is due to close in 2011, dealing with the Ministry of Defense's nuclear sites and the long-term storage of the waste. Adding those all in would bring the total cost to around £160 billion (US\$280,316,125,781). The Government has not released up-to-date estimates of the clean up costs.

Sources: Harrison, Michael and McCarthy, Michael, "Plan for new nuclear programme approaches meltdown after report," The Independent, 7 March 2006; "Britain's nuclear sites: clean-up may cost over 70.0 billion pounds," Agence France Presse, 30 March 2006; Nisse, Jason, "True price of UK's nuclear legacy: £160bn Fresh analysis shows mushrooming cost of clean-up," Independent on Sunday Business, 2 April 2006.

JAPAN BEGINS REPROCESSING SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL

On 31 March 2006, the \$18.6 billion Rokkasho reprocessing plant in Aomori Prefecture, Japan, began separating plutonium from spent nuclear fuel, the beginning of a 17-week test phase where 430 tons of spent fuel will be reprocessed. The plant, operated by Japan Nuclear Fuel Ltd, will produce mixed oxide fuel (MOX) on an experimental basis, the first time MOX will be manufactured in Japan.

Some Japanese officials see nuclear fuel reprocessing as the answer to weaning the country off petroleum. Reprocessing is a "big step forward for Japan to get stable energy supplies," according to Japan Nuclear Fuel's President Isami Kojima. Kojima, and many Japanese officials, have failed to identify the serious hazards presented by reprocessing nuclear fuel such as proliferation, radiation exposure dangers, and significant waste disposal issues.

For more information on reprocessing, read *Reprocessing and Proliferation Dangers*, (http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2005/05/00_ong_reprocessing-proliferation-dangers.pdf) and *International Concerns About Reprocessing* (http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2005/05/00_ong_international-concerns-about-reprocessing.pdf) both by Carah Ong, Director of Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's DC Office.

Sources: "Japan to Start Recycling Spent Nuclear Fuel to Trim Use of Oil," Bloomberg, 29 March 2006; "Active tests begin at Rokkasho reprocessing," Citizens' Nuclear Information Center Media Release, 31 March 2006.

LIBYA, FRANCE REACH AGREEMENT ON NUCLEAR RESEARCH

On 15 March 2006 Alain Bugat, director of France's Atomic Energy Commission, signed an accord with Libya on nuclear technology and research. The nuclear cooperation deal is the first of its kind since Libya abandoned its clandestine weapons programs in 2003.

Maatoug Mohammed Maatoug, supervisor of Libya's National Centre for Nuclear Research, described the accord as an important milestone in Libya's relations with the rest of the world, symbolizing a new era of trust between Libya and the international community.

Source: "Libya signs nuclear research deal with France," Agence France Presse, 15 March 2006.

33% OF WORLD'S CIVILIAN NUCLEAR REACTORS LACK PROPER SECURITY

In an interview with USA Today Linton Brooks, director of the US National Nuclear Security Administration said about 40 nuclear reactors around the world lack security upgrades needed to prevent theft of nuclear materials. Many of these unsecured reactors use highly enriched uranium (HEU), a key component used to manufacture nuclear weapons. Brooks said all the civilian reactors in the US, Russia and Eastern Europe have adequate security, saying greater security is needed at civilian nuclear facilities in China, Ghana, Pakistan and Uzbekistan, among many others.

Only 10 years ago, Brooks said, many Soviet bloc reactors were vulnerable. According to Brooks, security has improved at these sites thanks to about \$1 billion in funding each year from the US to secure civilian reactors. Some of the HEU has been purchased and used as fuel in US nuclear power plants to generate electricity.

Sources: Diamond, John, "Official Warns Of Unsecured Nuclear Reactors," USA Today, 27 March 2006.

Foundation Activities

2006 INTERNATIONAL LAW SYMPOSIUM - PAPERS AND DVD AVAILABLE

From 23-25 February 2006, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation held its 2006 International Law Symposium on the topic, "At the Nuclear Precipice: Nuclear Weapons and the Abandonment of International Law." An expert group of participants exchanged ideas on current nuclear dangers, the consequences of the abandonment of international law, and domestic and international strategies for changing US nuclear policy. The panels were all filmed for television and broader distribution, please contact the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation at wagingpeace@napf.org to obtain a DVD of the symposium's opening public forum. The papers presented at the Symposium are also available as PDF documents at: http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/programs/international-law/annual-symposium/2006_symposium.htm.

5TH ANNUAL FRANK K. KELLY LECTURE ON HUMANITY'S FUTURE - DVD AVAILABLE

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's 5th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on Humanity's Future was delivered by Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead Corrigan Maguire from Northern Ireland. Corrigan's topic was "A Right to Live Without Violence, Nuclear Weapons and War." Her message was that nonviolence is the only path to peace, and that we each must take personal responsibility for ridding the world of violence and war. The 5th Annual Lecture is now available on DVD. Please contact the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation at wagingpeace@napf.org to obtain a copy.

FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF FOUNDATION ADVANCEMENT

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is pleased to announce Miriam Austin as its new Director of Foundation Advancement. Her business experience in development over the last 4 years is complemented by an extensive background as an investment advisor. Her interest in yoga and meditation has led her to write three books on these topics, one of which was an international bestseller. Miriam is passionate about waging peace and nuclear disarmament and we are enthusiastic to have her on our team. Miriam can be reached in the Foundation's Santa Barbara office or by email at maustin@napf.org.

Educator's Section

SUMMER INSTITUTE ON TEACHING NONPROLIFERATION

Middlebury College and the Monterey Institute's Center for Nonproliferation Studies welcome applications from college faculty for the fourth annual Summer Nonproliferation Institute, to be held 21-25 June 2006, at Middlebury College. This summer workshop will provide training to faculty members interested in developing courses dealing with the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, chemical, or biological) and related nonproliferation policies. Experts from universities, think tanks, and the US government will speak. Accepted participants will be provided free room and board and a travel stipend of up to \$250. Applicants should send a current resume and a short letter of interest by 30 April 2006, to the Rohatyn Center for International Studies at cfia@middlebury.edu. E-mail applications only, please. Participants will be accepted on a rolling basis. For more information, visit: <https://segue.middlebury.edu/sites/nonproliferaton>.

HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI FOR COLLEGE TEACHERS

Hiroshima and Nagasaki for College Teachers is a one-week workshop, that will be held at Illinois Wesleyan University from 26-30 2006. The workshop provides resources and planning for a general education course or units dealing with "All Things Nuclear" and "The Legacy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki." The workshop is led by Raymond G. Wilson, Ph.D., Emeritus Associate Professor, Physics Department, Illinois Wesleyan University, and supported by The Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the AAC&U SENCER Project.

Illinois Wesleyan University has unusual success with its course, "Problems of Nuclear Disarmament." It deals with what journalists have voted to be "The Story of the Century." Students apparently wish to know about their futures and the challenges they may have to face.

Professor Raymond G. Wilson began teaching about the effects of nuclear war in 1959. He has spent eight summers of study in Hiroshima. In 1979 the "Problems of Nuclear Disarmament" course was created.

Perhaps on your campus there already exists a course which deals with the problems of nuclear war, and the social, biological, and physical effects on the cities and people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki wherein the death toll was well beyond 200,000. We believe such courses are rare. We further believe that college teachers can develop unique understandings and approaches to the problems brought about by contemporary threats to world peace, including nuclear weapons.

In 2002 and 2003 this one-week Workshop was offered solely for physics teachers. It is now available to all college teachers.

You will find below some of the topics of "Problems of Nuclear Disarmament" as taught at Illinois Wesleyan. Would a course something like this fit into the offerings at your institution? If you have interest in developing such a course, or units, about this topic; or if you wish to contribute additional insights and resources to such coursework, we invite you to join us. Here you will find in one place all the resources necessary to provide a good background and stimulus for you and your students in this "Problem of the Century."

Contact Ray Wilson at rwilson@iwu.edu if you are interested in participating in this workshop.

MISSILE DEFENSE ADVOCACY ALLIANCE POLL

According to a poll commissioned by the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance (MDAA) more than 70 percent of citizens throughout the state of New York support a missile defense system capable of protecting the US from a nuclear, chemical or biological attack. It's hardly surprising the MDAA, the public relations/propaganda arm of the Missile Defense Agency, would commission a poll distorting public opinion. The entirety of the poll's findings are available as a PDF document at:

<http://www.missiledefenseadvocacy.org/index/documents/MARNY.pdf>

MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY FIELDS INITIAL CAPABILITY BUT FALLS SHORT OF ORIGINAL GOALS

Missile Defense Agency Fields Initial Capability but Falls Short of Original Goals, from the Government Accountability Office, assesses the US Missile Defense Agency's progress during FY 2005 in meeting goals set in 2004 and identifies reasons for shortfalls. The complete report is available as a PDF document at: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06327.pdf>

SELECT CONTROLS FOR THE INFORMATION SECURITY OF THE GROUND-BASED MIDCOURSE DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Select Controls for the Information Security of the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Communications Network is a US Department of Defense (DoD) report that was removed from the DoD inspector general's website purportedly because of its criticism of Missile Defense Agency's (MDA) flaws. The report cites serious defects in the security technologies, policies and procedures needed to protect information on the MDA's network. The report is available as a PDF document at: http://www.fcw.com/images/st_images/MDADODIGReport.pdf

IRAQ - THREE YEARS ON

Iraq - Three Years On by Paul Rogers of the Oxford Research Group is a concise overview of the security situation in Iraq three years after the US/UK invasion. An important section of the report is an analysis of US defense spending today as compared to the height of the cold war. The complete reports is available as a PDF document at: <http://www.oxfordresearch-group.org.uk/publications/paulrogers/Feb06.pdf>

Quotable

"I'm looking forward to working with our United States Congress to change decades of law that will enable us to move forward in this important initiative."

US President George W. Bush
Remarks made at the Hyderabad House, India, after reaching agreement on civil nuclear cooperation
2 March 2006

"Knowing for more than three decades of Indian leaders' nuclear ambitions, I and all other presidents included them in a consistent policy: no sales of civilian nuclear technology or uncontrolled fuel to any country that refused to sign the NPT... This change in policies has sent uncertain signals to other countries, including North Korea and Iran, and may encourage technologically capable nations to choose the nuclear option"

Former US President Jimmy Carter
From an opinion piece published in the Washington Post
28 March 2006

"Those who have used nuclear weapons in the past and by doing so, have created the most heinous of tragedies in the history of the human race, I would say today are claiming to be the champions of disarmament. Iran's drive to have access to peaceful nuclear technology is what is rightfully ours."

Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki
Remarks made in response to the United Nation's demand to return to the negotiating table within 30 days
30 March 2006

"Listen, I proposed reprocessing agreements - that stands in stark contrast to current nuclear theology that we shouldn't reprocess for proliferation concerns. I don't see how you can advocate nuclear power, in order to take the pressure off of our own economy, for example, without advocating technological development of reprocessing, because reprocessing will not only - reprocessing is going to help with the environmental concerns with nuclear power. It will make there - to put it bluntly, there will be less material to dispose."

US President George W. Bush
Remarks made at the Hyderabad House, India, after reaching agreement on civil nuclear cooperation
2 March 2006

"As long as the great powers want to keep their bombs, smaller powers will emerge asking for the same."

Jean Brincmont, Belgian theoretical physicist
Describing the nuclear double standards enforced by the nuclear weapons states
16 March 2006

"The establishment of missile forces equipped with nuclear warheads, which existed in the Soviet period, is out of the question... Ukraine will strictly abide by international agreements concerning control and non-proliferation of missiles and missile technologies."

Ukrainian Defense Minister Anatoliy Gritsenko
Remarks made after the uproar following Gritsenko's 12 January 2006 suggestion that Ukraine would rebuild its missile forces
16 March 2006

"The trial is hugely important in strengthening international attention to the problem of illegal proliferation...It would be very good for international nonproliferation if the trial were to provide more details and shine more light on dark corners."

Goetz Neuneck of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg
Remarks made on the trial of a German engineer accused of breaking German export laws to assist Libya's former nuclear weapons program
18 March 2006

Editorial Team

Jyotishree Amatya
Luke Brothers
David Krieger
Carah Ong

