

# THE SUNflower

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For these reasons, we call upon the United States government to:

-Abandon its dangerous and provocative nuclear policies, in particular, researching, developing and making plans to shorten the time needed to resume testing of new and more usable nuclear weapons;

- Take its nuclear arsenal off the high alert status of the Cold War;

- Meet its disarmament obligations under Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Treaty's Review Conferences, including making arms reduction agreements irreversible;

- Renounce first use of or threat to use nuclear weapons under all circumstances;

- Enter into negotiations with North Korea on a mutual security pact; and

- Assert global leadership toward convening at the earliest possible date a Nuclear Disarmament Conference in order to move rapidly toward the creation and bringing into force of a verifiable Nuclear Weapons Convention to eliminate all nuclear weapons and control all nuclear materials capable of being converted to weapons.

## *Perspective*

### **THE CHALLENGE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY: A PATH FORWARD**

*By David Krieger, June 15, 2003*

(The below excerpt is taken from a new statement on nuclear weapons policy recently issued by the board of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. For the full text of the statement see:

[http://wagingpeace.org/articles/03.06/0613krieger\\_21century.htm](http://wagingpeace.org/articles/03.06/0613krieger_21century.htm)

It is the US insistence on retaining a nuclear weapons option that sets the tone for the world as a whole, reinforcing the unwillingness of other nuclear weapons states to push for nuclear disarmament and inducing threatened or ambitious states to take whatever steps are necessary, even at the risk of confrontation and war with the United States, to develop their own stockpile of nuclear weaponry. In this post-September 11th climate, the United States has suddenly become for other governments a country to be deterred rather than, as in the Cold War, a country practicing deterrence to discourage aggression by others.

### **TEN MYTHS ABOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

*By David Krieger and Angela McCracken, 7 July 2003*

For the full text see: [http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/03.07/0707krieger\\_10myths.htm](http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/03.07/0707krieger_10myths.htm)

**Myth # 5** -- Nuclear weapons make a country safer. It is a common belief that nuclear weapons protect a country by deterring potential aggressors from attacking. By threatening massive retaliation, the argument goes, nuclear weapons prevent an attacker from starting a war. To the contrary, nuclear weapons are actually undermining the safety of the countries that possess them by providing a false sense of security. While deterrence can provide some psychological sense of security, there are no guarantees that the threat of retaliation will succeed in preventing an attack. There are many ways in which deterrence could fail, including misunderstandings, faulty communications, irrational leaders, miscalculations and accidents. In addition, the possession of nuclear weapons enhances the risks of terrorism, proliferation and ultimately nuclear annihilation.

## Take Action

### COMMEMORATE THE BOMBINGS OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI

On 6 August 1945, the United States detonated a nuclear bomb above Hiroshima, Japan, indiscriminately killing some 90,000 to 100,000 people immediately and causing about 145,000 deaths by the end of 1945. At 11:02 a.m., three days after the Hiroshima bombing, the world's third atomic bomb explosion devastated the Japanese city of Nagasaki, the intense heat and blast slaughtering its inhabitants. The awesome destructive power of the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki is a mere fraction of irreparable damage that could be caused by the tens of thousands of nuclear weapons that have been developed since.

This 6 August, join thousands around the world in commemorating the anniversary of these tragic events by taking time to reflect on the unique threat that nuclear weapons pose to humanity. To get involved, you can participate in a number of activities:

- > Hold a public vigil in your community in memory of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- > Recall the memory of Sadako, a courageous young survivor of Hiroshima, with your children, students and friends by reading her story and folding paper cranes in her memory.
- > To read about the story of Sadako, go to: <http://www.sadako.com/story.html> and for instructions on how to fold a paper crane go to: <http://www.lssd.mb.ca/sandrews/sadako/fold.htm>
- > Send your cranes to join thousands of others at the Sadako Peace Garden by mailing them to: Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, PMB 121, 1187 Coast Village Road, Suite 1, Santa Barbara, California 93108-2794
- > Send an e-card commemorating Hiroshima to your friends. See: <http://dggreetings.com/hiroshimaday/>
- > Write your policymakers and remind them of the urgent need to eliminate all nuclear weapons.

## Proliferation

### US SAYS NEW PLUTONIUM PLANT TO CAUSE CANCER DEATHS

The US Department of Energy estimates that radiation doses at a proposed plutonium factory for nuclear bomb triggers would cause about one fatal case of cancer among workers for each four and a half years the plant operates. The design evaluated in the recently released draft environmental impact statement envisages the plant to run for 40 years, implying a total of about nine fatal cancers. The number could be larger or smaller depending on the level

of production. The apparently lethal factory project is being pursued even though the US currently has pit production capabilities at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, and even though the US already has approximately 15,000 pits in strategic reserve that appear to be stable and long-lived. There is no apparent need for further pit production unless the US plans to construct new nuclear weapons.

Sites being considered for the new plant include: the Pantex Plant outside Amarillo, Texas; the Savannah River Site in South Carolina; the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, New Mexico, and the Los Alamos, New Mexico, national laboratory. A federal study released on 3 June suggests that the Nevada Test Site, also considered as a site for the plant, is now an unlikely choice due to several potential obstacles.

Sources: *New York Times*, 26 June 2003; *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, 3 June 2003

### US PURSUES INTERDICTION POLICY THAT MAY VIOLATE LAW OF THE SEA

On 12 June, the Bush administration initiated a meeting in Madrid to discuss interdiction of arms and arms materials on the sea. There are no international norms prohibiting the transit of missiles and most other arms, and there are long-standing international norms securing the freedom of the high seas and the right to navigation and transit. Still, the Bush administration is talking closely with officials from Japan and Australia on how the countries might "change" international law to allow the countries to interdict arms transfers, particularly missiles, fissile materials and other weapons coming from North Korea. It is unclear how such a "change" could be undertaken given that China and Russia are unlikely to agree to a Security Council resolution on such a discriminatory policy, and given that the Bush administration has shown no interest in creating nondiscriminatory prohibition through a multilateral treaty.

Sources: *Los Angeles Times*, 12 June 2003; *New York Times*, 15 June 2003; *Wall Street Journal*, 9 June 2003

### JAPAN AND US DEBATE NORTH KOREA NUCLEAR REACTOR PROJECT

Japan, South Korea and the United States are debating whether to end an ongoing project to build two nuclear power plants in North Korea. The US is considering removing all support for the project which is being executed by KEDO, a New York-based company, while Japan has suggested that it wants to push forward with the plants' construction. Though Japan has consistently voiced concern over North Korea's nuclear weapons program, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi recently said of the KEDO project that Japanese officials, "are not presently thinking of putting an end to it."

Many are confounded as to why the United States has not already revoked involvement in KEDO, even after the collapse of the Agreed Framework that established the project.

US Representative Edward J. Markey has questioned why the Bush administration is still allowing the North Korean regime to access documents on nuclear technology as part of the KEDO program. Japan, South Korea, the United States and the European Union are all board members of KEDO.

Sources: *Associated Press*, 27 June 2003; *Korea Times*, 26 June & 1 July 2003

## IRAN PRESSED ON NUCLEAR PROGRAM

In a recent report, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has questioned Iran's compliance with current safeguard agreements, as international pressure builds for Iran to sign on to more thorough inspections. Iran would agree to additional international monitoring of its nuclear facilities, but only if it is allowed to acquire more advanced technology, according to Gholamreza Aghazadeh, the head of Iran's nuclear program. The head of the IAEA, Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, plans to visit Iran on 9 July.

Though Britain is pushing the EU to stall trade deals with Iran unless it halts its nuclear program, UK Foreign Secretary Jack Straw stated on 28 June that under no circumstance would the United Kingdom attack Iran.

Russia has reportedly increased pressure on Iran to accept more stringent inspections of its nuclear facilities, but on 5 June Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Yakovenko announced that Russia would move ahead with sending Iran reactor fuel to power the plant being built in Bushehr.

Sources: *Las Vegas Sun*, 30 June 2003; *London Daily Telegraph*, 18 June 2003; *Washington Post*, 11 June 2003; *Associated Press*, 7 June 2003; *New York Times*; 2 July 2003

## Disarmament

### STILL NO WEAPONS: BUSH AND BLAIR PRESSED ON USE OF INTELLIGENCE ON IRAQ

Specialist search teams in Iraq have reportedly run out of places to look for weapons of mass destruction and have been reduced to revisiting sites already checked by United Nations weapons inspectors earlier this year and sitting around in bombed-out palaces watching films.

The House and Senate intelligence committees began closed hearings on 19 June on the use of intelligence regarding Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, though Republicans are blocking any push for a full-blown investigation. During one of the initial committee hearings, Christian Westermann, a top State Department expert on chemical and biological weapons, reportedly told the House Intelligence committees that he had been pressed to tailor his analysis on Iraq and other matters to conform with the Bush administration's agenda.

On 5 July, Joseph C. Wilson, a retired US ambassador, publicly announced that US and British officials ignored his find-

ing that there was no Iraqi attempt to buy uranium oxide from Niger, and that they exaggerated the public case for invading Iraq. Wilson's new allegations have prompted key Democrats on the Senate Armed Services Committee to increase their push for the Armed Services Committee to undertake a second probe into alleged White House manipulation of intelligence. Wilson has already testified before the closed House and Senate Intelligence Committee probes.

UK Prime Minister Tony Blair has come under heavy criticism for misuse of intelligence information on Iraq, particularly from the UK Parliaments' Intelligence and Security Committee. Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's Director of Strategy and Communications, has issued a formal letter of apology for the publication of what has come to be known as the "dodgy dossier," parts of which were plagiarized from the work of a US graduate student. Campbell has also been accused of scrapping a different dossier on Iraq drawn up by intelligence officials, because it failed to establish that Saddam Hussein posed a growing threat.

On 6 June, Bloomberg News reported on a similar US report from the Defense Department in September 2002. The DoD report found, "There is no reliable information on whether Iraq is producing and stockpiling chemical weapons, or whether Iraq has -- or will -- establish its chemical warfare agent production facilities." The report was issued even as Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was saying the country had amassed stockpiles of the banned arms.

Also on 6 June, U.N. Security Council members, including Britain, called on the Bush administration to allow U.N. weapons inspectors to return to Iraq to certify whether it possessed secret biological and chemical weapons before the U.S.-led invasion.

Sources: *London Sunday Telegraph*, 8 June 2003; *Washington Post*, 6, 11 & 26 June 2003; *London Sunday Times*, 15 June 2003; *Bloomberg.com*, 6 June 2003; *New York Times*, 21 & 25 June 2003

### CHIEF UN WEAPONS INSPECTOR, HANS BLIX, RETIRES

On 30 June, Hans Blix retired after serving as the Chief of the United Nations monitoring Verification and Inspection Commission for three years. In his farewell speech, Blix noted that Iraq's failure to account for its alleged biological, chemical or nuclear weapons did not mean that it possessed them or posed an imminent threat. On 3 July, Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh announced that Blix will head a planned international commission on weapons of mass destruction which will likely be based in the Swedish capital, Stockholm.

Demetrius Perricos, an experienced inspector, has been appointed as an acting executive chairman for the Commission, though there is not likely to be a permanent appointment unless UN inspectors are ordered to return to Iraq.

Sources: *Los Angeles Times*, 6 June 2003; *New York Times*, 11 June & 1 July 2003; *CBS.com*, 3 July 2003

# Missiles & Missile Defense

## MISSILE DEFENSE FACES SECOND CONSECUTIVE TEST FAILURE

An interceptor missile fired from a Navy cruiser missed its target missile on 16 June in the second consecutive failed test of a missile defense system that President Bush has committed to deploy by 2004. The failure follows cutbacks in scheduled tests of the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense System and Missile Defense Agency requests for permission to deploy the missile defense system without undergoing the operational testing that is legally required.

Sources: *Los Angeles Times*, 19 June 2003; *Washington Times*, 20 June 2003

## SEOUL AND OTTAWA MOVE TOWARD SUPPORTING MISSILE DEFENSE

In a report released on 19 June, the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Korea indicated that it can make a conditional review for participation in a missile defense system for North East Asia organized by the United States. In his annual report released on 10 June, the Chief of Canada's Defense staff, Gen. Ray Henault, stated that Canada had a common interest with the US in developing a missile defense system.

Sources: *Ottawa Citizen*, 11 June 2003; *Korea Times*, 20 June 2003

## IRAN TESTS MEDIUM RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILE

In the beginning of July, Iran successfully tested its Shahab 3 missile to a range of 1,300km, according to Jane's Defence, the first Iranian test to achieve such a range. The Shahab 3 is reportedly based on North Korea's No Don-1 missile is capable of carrying an 800kg warhead and has an accuracy of 3,000m circular error of probability.

Source: *Jane's Defence Weekly*, 9 July 2003

# International law

## ICC GETS NEW PROSECUTOR, US CONTINUES RESISTANCE

Luis Moren Ocampo, an Argentine human rights lawyer was sworn in on 14 June at The Hague's Peace Palace as the first prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. Meanwhile the United States is pursuing several initiatives to undermine the Court. The Bush administration recently suspended military aid to 35 countries that have not signed immunity pacts with the US, refusing to join the 37, mostly smaller poorer countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe that have already signed such pacts. The United States has privately reprimanded EU governments for actively lobbying countries not to sign the US-drafted agreements. Bosnia's parliament bowed to such pressure, agreeing to an immunity pact on 6 June. The United States has also recently brought forward a resolution in the Security Council to extend the immunity from the ICC granted to the United States last year.

Sources: *New York Times*, 11 June 2003; *Washington Post*, 10 June & 1 July 2003; *Los Angeles Times*, 17 June 2003

## BELGIUM RESTRICTS WAR CRIMES LAW, REMOVES UNIVERSAL JURISDICTION

Belgian Parliamentarians agreed to limit a law which gives the Belgian courts universal jurisdiction to try cases of genocide, war crimes and human rights violations, to cases in which either the victim or the accused were residents of Belgium. The announcement follows intense pressure from the United States to repeal the law, including threats from the US Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, to pull NATO headquarters out of Brussels. War crimes lawsuits had been filed against US President George Bush, UK Prime Minister Tony Blair, US Secretary of State Colin Powell, Gen. Tommy Franks and Secretary Rumsfeld before parliamentarians agreed to amend the law.

Sources: *New York Times*, 14 June 2003; *Wall Street Journal*, 13 June 2003; *London Daily Telegraph*, 24 June 2003

### ANTI-NUCLEAR PROTESTS ESCALATE IN TAIWAN, REFERENDUM EXPECTED

Taiwanese President, Chen Shu-bian, pledged to hold a referendum over whether the country should complete construction of its fourth nuclear power plant in Kungliao, Taipei County. The referendum was one of Chen's campaign promises, and though he halted the plant's construction shortly after coming into office, Chen later backed down on his stance against the plant. The prospect of a referendum is said to have concerned Beijing, which fears that Chen may some day use a referendum to declare independence from mainland China. Mounting public protests opposing the plant are planned for the month of July.

Sources: *China Post*, 23 June 2003; *Reuters*, 27 June 2003; *Taipei Times*, 1 June 2003

### US SENATE APPROVES FUNDING FOR NEW NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

The Senate has approved a bill to provide loan guarantees for half the cost of at least six advanced design commercial nuclear power plants expected to cost about \$3 billion each. No nuclear power plants have been built in the US since the Three Mile Island disaster in 1979. In addition to the loan guarantees, the approved energy bill calls for commitments from the government that it will purchase power from the new-generation reactors, construct a government-owned reactor in Idaho to produce hydrogen, and increase nuclear research funding by tens of millions of dollars. Even with the lavish government subsidies, it is still not clear whether corporations will find the risky and costly venture of building and operating a nuclear power plant attractive enough to commit to construction.

Sources: *Reuters*, 10 & 11 June 2003; *Associated Press*, 11 June 2003

### INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL MAKES RULING ON SELLAFIELD

The International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea has rejected demands from Ireland that it provide "provisional measures" to shut the British mixed oxide nuclear fuel plant at Sellafield. Ireland and Norway have repeatedly complained that traces of toxic Technetium-99 were appearing in seafood products, and Ireland sought provisional measures from the tribunal after the main case was suspended until December, due to concerns over jurisdiction. The recent ruling also maintained an earlier decision mandating the UK to agree to a mechanism for cooperation with Ireland on issues of nuclear safety.

Sources: *Environmental News Service*, 26 June 2003; *Agence France-Presse*, 26 June 2003

### US WEAPONS LAB LOSES PLUTONIUM VIALS

Los Alamos National Laboratory has admittedly lost track of a small quantity of plutonium oxide. The lab's directors are suggesting that it may have mislabeled and discarded the highly carcinogenic material. Following the incident, US Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham ordered an overhaul of security at US nuclear weapons laboratories. The management of the labs, currently the responsibility of the University of California, is soon to come up for competitive bid. UC is likely to face competition from Lockheed Martin, the University of Texas and the University of Colorado during the bidding process.

Sources: *Associated Press*, 23 June 2003; *San Francisco Gate*, 19 June 2003; *Agence France-Presse*, 25 June 2003

### RUSSIA FLIES NUCLEAR FUEL TO DANGEROUS ARMENIAN PLANT

Utilizing a rare method of transportation for shipping nuclear fuel, Russia flew 103 fresh uranium fuel assemblies to Armenia's single reactor renowned for being one of the most dangerous power plants operating in Europe. The Mezamor plant, which was shut down in April after it ran out of fuel, has suffered past explosions, is built in a seismically active area, and is based on aging Russian designs. A spokesperson for Azerbaijan's president has been quoted as stating that the plant's equipment is outdated and its future use poses a threat to the whole region. A European commission spokesman has stated that the European Union would give \$117 million to Armenia to close the plant.

Source: *Bellona*, 13 June 2003

### PEACE EDUCATION COORDINATOR PRESENTS AT UNESCO CONFERENCE

Leah Wells, Peace Education Coordinator of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, traveled to Jyväskylä, Finland, to participate in the UNESCO Conference on Teaching and Learning for Intercultural Understanding, Human Rights and a Culture of Peace during 15-18 June. Leah presented a paper entitled "A Culture of Teaching Peace." The conference gave educators from several different cultures an opportunity to discuss how they can better integrate intercultural understanding into their institutional policies, study and training programs, courses and curricula, classroom strategies and activities, in-service education and faculty/staff development, and scientific research.

Read Leah's paper online at:

[http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/03.06/0600wells\\_unesco.pdf](http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/03.06/0600wells_unesco.pdf)

## THE FOUNDATION TO SPONSOR SADAKO PEACE DAY EVENT

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation will observe the Ninth Annual Sadako Peace Day at the Sadako Peace Garden at La Casa de Maria in Montecito on 6 August. The annual commemoration coincides with the 58th anniversary of the 1945 bombing of Hiroshima and serves to remind us about the destruction and pain brought upon by nuclear weapons.

### SUPPORT THE NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

Support the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation by making a tax-deductible contribution at <https://www.ndic.com/waging-peace/supportus.htm>.

## Resources

"Ten Reasons to Abolish Nuclear Weapons" by David Krieger can be found at:  
[http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/nodate/ten\\_reasons.html](http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/nodate/ten_reasons.html)

The DOE Modern Pit Facility Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available at: <http://mpfeis.com/DEISTOC.htm>

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

"There is no longer any serious doubt that Bush administration officials deceived us into war. The key question now is why so many influential people are in denial, unwilling to admit the obvious."

*-Paul Krugman, Columnist for the New York Times and  
Professor of Economics and International Affairs at  
Princeton University, 24 June 2003*

"President George W. Bush has got a very serious problem. Before asking Congress for a Joint Resolution authorizing the use of American military forces in Iraq, he made a number of unequivocal statements about the reason the

United States needed to pursue the most radical actions any nation can undertake - acts of war against another nation.

Now it is clear that many of his statements appear to be false. In the past, Bush's White House has been very good at sweeping ugly issues like this under the carpet, and out of sight. But it is not clear that they will be able to make the question of what happened to Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) go away - unless, perhaps, they start another war."

*-John W. Dean, former Counsel to the President of the  
United States, 6 June 2003*

## Editors

Devon Chaffee  
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