

THE SUNflower



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

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Perspectives

The US-India Deal: When Geopolitics Meets Principle

by David Krieger

When geopolitics comes up against principle in the US Congress, it is generally principle that is forced to give way. In the case of the US-India nuclear deal, originally proposed by President Bush and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2005, the deal would involve transferring nuclear technology and material from the US to India. Geopolitically, it would strengthen the relationship between the two countries, but it would do so at the expense of the principle of preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

To read more, visit: www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2008/09/25_krieger_geopolitics_principle.php.

My Testimony of the Atomic Bombing

by Miyako Yano

Miyako Yano spoke at a Nuclear Age Peace Foundation-sponsored event in Santa Barbara on September 16, 2008.

On August 6 of 1945, I was 14 years old and a student of a girls' high school. On that morning, I felt sick and stayed home, which was a wooden house belonging to a Shinto shrine, located at 4km to the south of the epicenter. At 8:15, when I was on the first floor with my family, we saw an enormous flash of light in the northern sky.

To read more, visit: www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2008/09/16_miyako_yano.pdf.

The Truthful Meet the Powerful: Students and Hibakusha Address the UC Regents

by Steve Stormoen

Waking up to face the UC Regents is not a pleasant morning destination. In the three years I've been going to their meetings, the three years since I first learned my university manages the nation's two premiere nuclear weapons laboratories at Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore, I've been ignored, mocked, condescended to, openly derided, and even arrested.

To read more, visit: www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2008/09/29_stormoen_irvine_hibakusha.php.

US Nuclear Policy

US-India Nuclear Proliferation Deal Approved by Congress

On September 27, the US House of Representatives approved the US-India nuclear proliferation deal, followed on October 1 by the approval of the Senate.

David Krieger, President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, said, "The US has demonstrated that perceived short-term geopolitical gain, with an unhealthy dose of potential financial profit thrown in, is more than enough to defeat even the most important of security-related principles. The Bush administration has succeeded in making the Congress complicit in blowing a hole the size of a nuclear explosion through the principle of safeguarding the country and the world against the spread of nuclear weapons."

Congress bypassed rules requiring a 30-day waiting period before a vote, eliminating the possibility of debate about proliferation implications. Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA) stated that it was "outrageous that such a critical vote, one that will forever change the global nonproliferation regime, was taken without the benefit of full congressional review and oversight, as required by the law."

Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-ND) said that through this deal, the US is telling the rest of the world that, like India, "you can

misuse American nuclear technology and secretly develop nuclear weapons; you can test those weapons; you can build a nuclear arsenal in defiance of the United Nations resolutions, and you will be welcomed as someone exhibiting good behavior with an agreement with the United States of America. What message does that send to others who want to join the nuclear club?"

After the Senate vote, Rep. Markey commented, "Now that the nuclear rules have been broken for India's sake, Iran, Pakistan and North Korea will be looking for a way to similarly game the system."

Klug, Foster, "Senate Gives Final OK to US-India Nuclear Deal," *Associated Press*, October 1, 2008.

Nuclear Proliferation

New Australian-Led Disarmament Panel Is Launched

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso have announced the members of the International Commission on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament.

Former Australian Labor Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and Japan's former Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi will both head the commission. Among those in the commission will be former US Defense Secretary William Perry.

While the ultimate goal is to rid the world of nuclear weapons, the commission will report on options available that can strengthen international rules against nuclear weapons. It will be divided into three parts: the commission, an advisory board, and a committee to draft the final report. Nuclear issues ranging from disarmament to producing atomic energy in the future will be some of the topics covered by the commission.

Some leaders of the nuclear disarmament movement have criticized the makeup of the panel, noting that some members actively promote the first use of nuclear weapons or oppose the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Commissioner Klaus Naumann of Germany recently co-authored an opinion that recommended a grand strategy of the USA, NATO and the EU in which "the first use of nuclear weapons must remain in the quiver of escalation as the ultimate instrument to prevent the use of weapons of mass destruction."

"Australian, Japanese PMs Launch Nuclear Commission," *Agence France Presse*, September 25, 2008.

North Korea Bars Inspectors from Nuclear Facilities

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported on September 24 that North Korea had barred international inspectors from a reprocessing plant at its nuclear reactor complex in Yongbyon. The IAEA said that North Korea was likely to resume production of nuclear weapons-grade fuel there within a week.

North Korea's negotiators have strenuously complained that the Bush administration has yet to fulfill its promise to remove North Korea from a list of state sponsors of terrorism, as President Bush announced in June that he was prepared to do, and instead has made new demands.

US Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill is scheduled to travel to Pyongyang on October 1 for talks with North Korean negotiators.

Myers, Steven Lee and Elaine Sciolino, "N. Korea Bars Inspectors from Nuclear Plant," *International Herald Tribune*, September 25, 2008.

India and Pakistan to Hold Peace Talks

Rivals with a history of tensions, India and Pakistan, have decided to begin peace talks. Prime Minister of India Manmohan Singh and Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari have agreed to schedule talks by the end of this year. While this peace dialogue between both nuclear-armed countries began in 2004, political turmoil in Pakistan forced a pause to the talks.

Both leaders agreed that the ceasefire between the countries needs to be stabilized. In addition, an anti-terrorism meeting will be held next month, in response to the alleged involvement of Pakistan in a suicide car bomb attack on the Indian embassy in Kabul. Both Zardari and Singh say they share a vision of resolving their countries' issues through peaceful means.

“India, Pakistan Leaders Agree to Kickstart Peace Talks,” *Agence France Presse*, September 24, 2008.

Nuclear Insanity

Air Force Officers Punished for Nuclear Mishaps

Fifteen Air Force senior officers have been reprimanded for mistakenly shipping nuclear weapons parts to Taiwan. While they were not accused of intentionally committing these acts, their military careers will face consequences because of poor performance in their missions.

In 2006, batteries were to be sent to Taiwan; instead, ballistic missile cones made to trigger nuclear warheads were shipped. This mistake was not discovered until 2008. However, an even larger mistake occurred in 2007, when a B-52 bomber transferred six nuclear armed cruise missiles under its wing between two US bases. This mistake went unknown for 36 hours.

Among the officers were six generals and the most severe action taken was letters of reprimand, which were given to one general and five colonels. These letters are kept on file and determine promotions, retirement, and assignments.

James Schlesinger, former defense secretary and leader of the task force, warned that damage may have been caused to international confidence in the US nuclear area, and could push US allies to look elsewhere for their materials.

“Air Force Disciplines 15 Senior Officers for Taiwan Nuclear Shipment,” *Agence France Presse*, September 25, 2008.

New Bush Administration Paper Calls (Again) for New Nuclear Weapons

A new white paper released by the US Secretaries of Energy and Defense argues the need for the Reliable Replacement Warhead (RRW), despite the fact that Congress has refused to fund the program for the past two years.

The white paper insists that the RRW is necessary to retain “confidence” in the nuclear arsenal without explosive tests. The paper also states, “The United States continues to maintain nuclear forces for two fundamental reasons. First, the international security environment remains dangerous and unpredictable, and has grown more complicated since the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Political intentions can change overnight and technical surprises can be expected. Second, nuclear weapons continue to play unique roles in supporting US national security strategy.”

The paper does not address in detail a main concern of critics: that development of new nuclear weapons would make it more difficult for the US to lead non-proliferation efforts around the world.

Grossman, Elaine, “US Nuclear Arms Paper Underlines Need for RRW,” *Global Security Newswire*, September 24, 2008.

Iraq War

US Arms Sales Increasing Rapidly

US arms sales are increasing rapidly as the Bush administration rearms Iraq and Afghanistan, contains North Korea and Iran, and creates ties with former Russian allies. While in 2005 sales were at \$12 billion, this year \$32 billion in weapons and military equipment have been sold. Deliveries on orders are set to continue for several years.

The Middle East is where most of the weapons and equipment are going, but Africa, Latin America, Asia, Europe, and Canada are among those also making deals with the US, which the Bush administration says will tighten military alliances and fight terrorism.

“This is not about being gunrunners,” said Bruce S. Lemkin, the Air Force Deputy Under Secretary who is helping to coordinate many of the biggest sales. “This is about building a more secure world.”

However, a big worry among critics is that if alliances were to shift, the US could potentially face its own weapons in war. A great example is when the US supplied militants in Afghanistan with weapons to fight the Soviets, and later ended up confronting them.

Travis Sharp, a military policy analyst at the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, said it best in a statement he made: “Once you sell arms to another country, you lose control over how they are used. And the weapons, unfortunately, don't have an expiration date.”

One of the biggest buyers is Iraq, having signed \$3 billion in sales agreements, and still planning on buying up to \$7 billion worth.

Lipton, Eric, “US Arms Sales Climbing Rapidly,” *New York Times*, September 14, 2008.

Resources

Presidential Positions on Nuclear Policy

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation offers a resource featuring the nuclear weapons policy opinions of present and former major-party candidates for US President. You can access this resource on our website at www.wagingpeace.org/menu/resources/surveys/2008_pres_cand/cand_quotes_page.php.

The Arms Control Association recently published survey results on nuclear issues from Barack Obama. ACA has not yet heard back from John McCain; McCain's answers will be published as soon as they are received. To read Obama's survey answers, visit www.armscontrol.org/system/files/20080924_ACT_PresidentialQA_Obama_Sept08.pdf.

Deterring State Sponsorship of Nuclear Terrorism

The widespread belief that threatening other nations will stop them from supplying terrorists with nuclear weapons and materials is a Cold War way of thinking by the US that needs to be re-evaluated, according to the Council on Foreign Relations. Not only could this “deterrence system” prove to be more dangerous if countries such as Russia and Pakistan then refused to cooperate in improving nuclear security, but US threats may not even faze some countries.

Michael Levi, author of *Deterring State Sponsorship of Nuclear Terrorism* recommends other ways to deter countries, which can be found at www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/Nuclear_Deterrence_CSR39.pdf.

Nuclear Dilemma Exhibit in Gernika, Spain

After a successful exhibition in Geneva, Switzerland, the Nuclear Dilemma has moved to the Peace Museum in Gernika, Spain, where it will be shown through January 2009.

The Nuclear Dilemma is a unique visual-communication project about the history of nuclear technology, providing valuable tools for people to form clear perspectives on its past and present uses, and enabling dialogue and research for a safer future.

For more information, visit www.nucleardilemma.org.

Foundation Activities

New Book: At the Nuclear Precipice

Foundation President David Krieger and Board Chairman Richard Falk have edited a new book titled *At the Nuclear Precipice: Catastrophe or Transformation?*

This book focuses on an even more urgent and “inconvenient truth” than global warming. At the nuclear precipice, humanity’s choices are catastrophe or transformation. The book explores the present nuclear predicament, and how to step away from the precipice and assure humanity’s future. It examines the intersections between international law and national policies; and between nuclear proliferation, nuclear terrorism and nuclear disarmament. The book offers a way out if policy makers of leading countries can summon the vision and political will to move in a new direction.

The contributing authors are leading scholars and activists in the nuclear disarmament movement, including Judge Christopher Weeramantry and Daniel Ellsberg.

To order your copy of the book, visit amazon.com or Powell's Books.

Dr. Helen Caldicott to Speak in Long Beach

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is co-sponsoring a free community event featuring Dr. Helen Caldicott. For over 30 years, Dr. Caldicott has passionately led an international campaign to educate the public about the medical hazards of the nuclear age, environmental destruction and how to prevent nuclear Armageddon.

She will be speaking on Sunday, October 12 at 2 pm at the First Congregational Church of Long Beach (California). For more information, please visit www.firstchurchlb.org.

David Krieger to Speak at Solar Power Conference

Foundation President David Krieger will deliver the opening remarks to business leaders and legislators at a World Future Council event preceding the Solar Power International conference in San Diego on October 12. It is North America’s largest solar conference and expo. Dr. Krieger will talk about the importance of renewable energy and the inextricable link between nuclear power and nuclear weapons.

For more information on the conference, visit www.solarpowerconference.com.

25th Annual Evening for Peace

Two men who wage peace with courage and commitment will be honored at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's 25th Annual Evening for Peace on November 22 at 7 pm at Santa Barbara's Doubletree Resort.

One of the most compelling voices for peace and justice in the United States today, George Regas is a prominent leader in the interfaith nuclear disarmament movement. An orator of uncommon brilliance, he spent 28 years as rector of one of the largest Episcopal churches in the United States (All Saints in Pasadena), leading his congregation in its opposition to the Vietnam War, the escalating nuclear arms race, the covert Central America wars, and both the Gulf War and the Iraq War.

Stanley K. Sheinbaum is the epitome of a world citizen, having shaped foreign policy with prime ministers, presidents and kings. He spoke out forcefully against the Vietnam War and was the defense strategist for Daniel Ellsberg during the Pentagon Papers trial. When a coup in Greece

imprisoned his friend, Andreas Papandreou, Sheinbaum took great personal risk to save Papandreou's life. In a bold move, Stanley led a group of American Jews to meet with Yasser Arafat and persuaded him to denounce terrorism against Israel. At the request of President Clinton, Sheinbaum traveled to Damascus to set up a summit with Syria. His life story holds lessons for all who are interested in peace and understanding the world.

For tickets and more information, please contact the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation at (805) 965-3443.

Quotes

"I hate war, and I testify about my experience of war because, yes, we all came into this world to construct and to maintain a society in which everyone can live without fear. But rather than building a peaceful society, we continue to possess nuclear weapons capable of killing the entire population of the world."

-- **Junko Kayashige**, a survivor of the Hiroshima atomic bombing, speaking at a Nuclear Age Peace Foundation-sponsored event in Santa Barbara on September 16, 2008.

"I am in favor of negotiating with Iran...I do not believe that we can make conditions for the opening of negotiations."

-- Former US Secretary of State **Henry Kissinger**, speaking on *CNN* on September 20, 2008.

"Since the fall of Soviet communism with Russia ready to be our friend at that point in pulling back its military and letting all those people free, ending the Cold War, we have managed to make an enemy out of Russia. We have pushed them into the arms of China and Iran, which is contrary to the long-term interests of both our countries."

-- **Rep. Dana Rohrabacher** (R-CA), speaking to the House Foreign Affairs Committee on September 9, 2008.

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