

THE SUNflower

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Perspective

IS A NUCLEAR 9/11 IN OUR FUTURE?

By David Krieger, 6 October 2003

Sooner or later there will be a nuclear 9/11 in an American city or that of a US ally unless a serious program is undertaken to prevent such an occurrence. A terrorist nuclear attack against an American city could take many forms. A worst case scenario would be the detonation of a nuclear device within a city. Depending upon the size and sophistication of the weapon, it could kill hundreds of thousands or even millions of people.

Terrorists could obtain a nuclear device by stealing or purchasing an already created nuclear weapon or by stealing or purchasing weapons-grade nuclear materials and fashioning a crude bomb. While neither of these options would be easy, they cannot be dismissed as beyond the capabilities of a determined terrorist organization.

If terrorists succeeded in obtaining a nuclear weapon, they would also have to bring it into the US, assuming they did not already obtain or create the weapon in this country.

While this would not necessarily be easy, many analysts have suggested that it would be within the realm of possibility. An oft-cited example is the possibility of bringing a nuclear device into an American port hidden on a cargo ship.

For full text, go to http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2003/10/06_krieger_nuclear-911.htm

THE EMPEROR HAS NO CLOTHES

by Senator Robert C. Byrd, 17 October, 2003

Mr. President, the Emperor has no clothes. This entire adventure in Iraq has been based on propaganda and manipulation. Eighty-seven billion dollars is too much to pay for the continuation of a war based on falsehoods.

[...] The single-minded obsession of this Administration to now make sense of the chaos in Iraq, and the continuing propaganda which emanates from the White House painting Iraq as the geographical center of terrorism is distracting our attention from Afghanistan and the 60 other countries in the world where terrorists hide. It is sapping resources which could be used to make us safer from terrorists on our own shores. The body armor for our own citizens still has many, many chinks. Have we forgotten that the most horrific terror attacks in history occurred right here at home!! Yet, this Administration turns back money for homeland security, while the President pours billions into security for Iraq. I am powerless to understand or explain such a policy.

[...] I cannot stand by and continue to watch our grandchildren become increasingly burdened by the billions that fly out of the Treasury for a war and a policy based largely on propaganda and prevarication. We are borrowing \$87 billion to finance this adventure in Iraq. The President is asking this Senate to pay for this war with increased debt, a debt that will have to be paid by our children and by those same troops that are currently fighting this war. I cannot support outlandish tax cuts that plunge our country into potentially disastrous debt while our troops are fighting and dying in a war that the White House chose to begin.

I cannot support the continuation of a policy that unwisely ties down 150,000 American troops for the foreseeable future, with no end in sight.

I cannot support a President who refuses to authorize the

reasonable change in course that would bring traditional allies to our side in Iraq.

I cannot support the politics of zeal and "might makes right" that created the new American arrogance and unilateralism which passes for foreign policy in this Administration.

I cannot support this foolish manifestation of the dangerous and destabilizing doctrine of preemption that changes the image of America into that of a reckless bully.

Mr. President, the emperor has no clothes. And our former allies around the world were the first to loudly observe it.

For full text, go to http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2003/10/17_byrd_emperor.htm

Take Action

100 LETTERS, 100 DAYS LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN

On 2 October 2003, University of California (UC) President Robert Dynes began his term overseeing one of the largest public university systems in the world with \$1 billion in annual donations, 1.2 million alumni, 190,000 students and two nuclear weapons laboratories.

During his term, the UC Regents will decide whether or not to bid to continue managing Los Alamos National Laboratory, one of the primary US nuclear weapons laboratories. On 20 October 2003, the University of California Board of Regents appointed Admiral Foley, a well-connected retired Navy admiral and former federal weapons director to serve as the UC's vice president and manage the operations of the Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore nuclear weapons labs on behalf of the US Department of Energy. Foley will report directly to UC President Robert Dynes, who recommended his appointment. Foley's appointment sends the strongest message to date that UC intends to maintain the management of the weapons labs.

We ask that members of the UC community, specifically students, faculty, staff and alumni, use the first 100 days of Dynes' presidency as an opportunity to voice opposition to UC's role in the development of nuclear weapons. We ask that these voices be joined by diverse stakeholders in the future of humanity, such as high school seniors applying to a UC school, former and current lab employees, parents of UC students, community residents, hibakusha (survivors of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki), elected officials, religious leaders and entertainers.

Our aim is for Dynes to receive at least one letter per day for 100 days beginning with his first day in office and lasting through 9 January 2004. The campaign has reached its second month and there are 70 remaining letters to be sent. Please contact Michael Coffey, Youth Outreach Coordinator, for details including letter content, logistics and President Dynes' address at 805.965.3443 or youth@napf.org.

Here are excerpts from a few of the letters we have received so far:

"With the future of the lab's management now at stake, UC stands at a critical juncture. Positioned as we are, we have a unique opportunity at this moment to speak out on the issue. Yet in calling the continuation of UC's contract into question, the real issue for many of us is not whether the work of the labs could be handled better; but whether it should be done at all."

- *Maia Ramnath, Graduate Student, UC Santa Cruz*

"Continued work on nuclear weapons has led both to proliferation and to the violation and abrogation of international treaties. The reputation of the weapons laboratories, and indeed of the University, is being tarnished. Legal actions against the lab have furthered the impression of an enterprise engaged not in careful science, but of covering up its responsibilities for environmental health and safety."

- *Marc Pilisuk, Professor Emeritus, UC Davis*

"The next concern I have is about a certain group of people with whom I have dear friends, the UC science students and alumni Every nuclear weapon in the US arsenal was created in part by a UC employee, and with growing dissent for weapons of mass destruction research among UC students, it will be more difficult to find replacements for the predicted 20% turnover of needed weapons researchers. I am concerned that the UC system and the labs will not be truthful in their recruitment efforts and will use ambiguous job descriptions as lures."

- *Brit Fenton-Olsen, UCSB Alumna*

"Our country has a proud history of youth and student activists who have organized themselves to fight for social and economic justice and for peace. Many of those students in the past, and today, have come from the University of California system and we support their actions and energy in confronting these issues. We join the students of the UC system and community members in demanding that President Dynes hold a series of forums on each campus which will be inclusive and welcoming to students, faculty, staff, and community members to discuss the issue of the UC system's continued participation in the nuclear weapons complex."

- *Jessica Marschall, National Youth and Student Peace Coalition*

SPEAK OUT AGAINST ENOLA GAY DISPLAY AT DULLES AIRPORT

On 15 December 2003, the Smithsonian Institution will open an exhibit of the Enola Gay, the US B-29 that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, at its Dulles Airport Annex. General John Dailey, the Museum's director, told reporters, "We don't expect any protests. We think that is in the past. We would like to keep it there. We are proud of what we have done with this aircraft. We are displaying it in all of its glory as a magnificent technological achievement."

The Enola Gay dropped a single atomic bomb that killed some 90,000 persons immediately and some 145,000 by the end of 1945. To display the Enola Gay "in all of its glory" demonstrates a level of insensitivity that suggests the possibility of the future use of nuclear weapons. For more information on planned protests, contact Peter Kuznick at Pkuznick@aol.com.

Proliferation

IRAN HALF WAY TO IAEA COMPLIANCE

On 23 October 2003, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) received documents from Iran clarifying the status of its nuclear activities. Iran Chief IAEA delegate Ali Akbar Saleh handed in the declaration eight days ahead of deadline in order to prove Iran is not developing nuclear weapons. In Tehran, however, thousands of hard-liners protested their country's conciliatory moves.

Such commitments were made after British, French and German foreign ministers convened in Tehran to persuade Iran to dispel suspicions that its nuclear program could be used to develop nuclear weapons. The European initiative offered to recognize Iran's right to a civilian nuclear energy program, give technical assistance and guarantee Iran's access to imported fuel for nuclear power plants. The meeting secured Iran's agreement to accept new international inspections of some of its nuclear facilities and to suspend production of enriched uranium.

The Bush administration has welcomed the Iranian move as "a very positive development," but said that Iran's offer to cooperate did not mean that it had abandoned its ambitions to build an atom bomb. Under Secretary of State John Bolton said on 30 October, "It still remains to be seen whether these initiatives will amount to more than mere words and even if Iran follows through with its promises, many further steps will still be required in order to prove beyond doubt that Iran is forswearing the pursuit of nuclear weapons."

Though described as "comprehensive and accurate," the report requires further "fine tuning" and "more explanation." The IAEA has yet to establish the origin of some controversial uranium enrichment technology as well as the source of nuclear materials produced by Iran over the past decade.

IAEA inspectors have recently discovered other potentially hidden nuclear activities in Iran, including the development of centrifuges and laser technology to enrich uranium during inspection installations only recently opened to agency officials.

Iran had until 31 October to suspend its uranium enrichment program and sign an "additional protocol" of its IAEA Safeguards Agreement allowing spot inspections of its facilities. Tehran was expected to comply with the demands and was reported to be working on the modalities of suspending uranium enrichment. Secretary of Supreme National

Security Council Rowhani said Iran will suspend its nuclear enrichment program for an "interim period" – though he did not state for how long. The Associated Press reported on 26 October that Iran was still enriching uranium.

IAEA Director General Mohammed ElBaradei has until 20 November to present a report on Iranian compliance to the IAEA board of governors.

During early October, Israel declared its readiness to launch pre-emptive strikes on nuclear sites in Iran. Israel warned that if Iran completes its program for enriching uranium, it would be able to produce its own nuclear weapons without outside help by summer 2004.

Sources: New York Times, 31 October 2003; The Times, 31 October 2003; Reuters, 31 & 20 October 2003; Financial Times, 30 October 2003; New York Times, 29 October 2003; BBC News, 29 & 22 October 2003; Mideast AFP, 28 October 2003; Global Security Newswire, 24 and 27 October 2003; Associated Press, 21 October 2003; Agence France Presse, 11 October 2003.

NORTH KOREA "READY TO CONSIDER" US PROPOSAL

North Korea signaled on 25 October 2003 that it was "ready to consider" the US proposed international non-aggression pact. This came after earlier statements saying that the offer was "laughable" and "not worth considering."

The concession offered by Bush on 19 October stated that the US administration would consider giving Pyongyang a written security guarantee that the US would not attack the nation in return for the dismantlement of the regime's nuclear weapons program. The assurance falls short of North Korea's demand for a formal non-aggression treaty, but, nevertheless, represented a major turnaround for an administration that had previously insisted that the dismantling of North Korea's nuclear weapons program be a pre-condition for negotiations.

On 30 October, Pyongyang agreed "in principle" that it was ready to take part in a new round of six-way talks based on "the principle of simultaneous actions." In the past, "simultaneous actions" referred to North Korea's abandonment of its nuclear weapons development program in return for foreign aid, energy assistance and diplomatic recognition.

On 16 October, North Korea announced plans to display its "nuclear deterrent" at an appropriate time to end debate over its nuclear status should the US delay its solution to the impasse. The statement, however, did not indicate how they would do so.

On 26 October, delegation leader Curt Weldon called off a rare bipartisan US congressional trip to North Korea, claiming that the trip would be inappropriate at this time. It was anticipated that Pyongyang would show the delegation its

nuclear sites in order to confirm that it has a nuclear weapons program. North Korea was reported to have extracted plutonium from 8000 spent fuel rods at Yongbon, 60 miles north of Pyongyang, with the intention of building atomic bombs.

Sources: International Herald Tribune, 31 October 2003; BBC, 30 October 2003; Global Security Newswire, 27 October 2003; LA Times, 27 October 2003; Associated Press, 26 October 2003; Reuters, 16 October 2003; New York Times, 2 October 2003.

PENTAGON DRIVE FOR “MINI-NUKES”

The Pentagon is planning to publish a report backing the development of a new generation of low-yield nuclear weapons, otherwise known as “mini-nukes.” Entitled “*Future Strategic Strike Force*,” the report was written by the Defense Science Board (DSB) and is to be released by the end of 2003.

Marking a dramatic shift from the Cold War doctrine of deterrence and the use of nuclear weapons as a catastrophic last resort, the document aims “to transform the nation’s forces to meet the demands placed on them by a changing world order.”

The move is endorsed by US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, who in a recent leaked memo called for a “bolder” approach to national security. The report advocates a new role for nuclear weapons in US strategy, making them “relevant to the threat environment” in the “war on terror.”

The concept of mini-nukes involves the development of small scale nuclear warheads whose explosive impact will be easier to control and could be aimed at smaller aggressive states. The Pentagon’s argument is that such weapons would also minimize collateral damage.

Such moves have generated growing opposition. Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher (D-CA) of the House Armed Services Committee noted, “we have no military vulnerability articulated that requires us to build a new nuclear capability.”

Building low-yield nuclear weapons would increase the likelihood of their use and undermine efforts to control nuclear proliferation and disarmament by blurring the distinction between nuclear and conventional weaponry. The US is taking the lead in provoking a global nuclear arms race and, as IAEA Director General ElBaradei has stated, developing such new weapons will encourage other countries to violate the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Sources: The Daily Telegraph, 26 and 27 October 2003; Jane’s Defence Weekly, 22 October 2003.

FRANCE DENIES SHIFT TO PROACTIVE NUCLEAR DOCTRINE

The Daily Libération revealed France’s strategy to revamp its nuclear weapons doctrine that includes a threat to utilize its nuclear deterrent. The French nuclear forces, Force de Frappe, could, in the future, be turned against “rogue states” in possession of weapons of mass destruction. The new strategy would take account of states believed to have biological, chemical and nuclear weapons, and in the longer term “would take into account the threat from China.”

French President Jacques Chirac’s office issued a statement denying this report, maintaining that there has been no shift in France’s nuclear deterrence policy and no change from the stand outlined in 2001 when Chirac stated, “France would preserve the means to maintain the credibility of its nuclear deterrent in the face of all new threats Our nuclear forces are directed against no country, and we have always refused the chance that nuclear weapons could be considered a battle weapon employed in a military strategy.”

An unidentified senior military official said that France could revamp its nuclear deterrent as soon as early 2004. France’s blueprint for defense spending between 2003-2008 has earmarked \$20 billion for modernization of Force de Frappe, which is expected to be passed by parliament in early November 2003.

Sources: The Independent, 28 October 2003; Washington Times, 28 October 2003; The Guardian, 28 October 2003; Reuters, 27 October 2003.

THE NPT AT STAKE: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION ON THE HORIZON?

IAEA chief ElBaradei warned that between 35-40 countries possess the capability of building nuclear weapons in just a few months. “Under the current regime, there is nothing illicit for a non-nuclear state to conduct uranium enriching activities ... or even to possess military-grade nuclear material.”

Brazil announced on 7 October that it will begin a uranium enrichment program in 2004 to provide fuel for two of its nuclear plants. Brazil is currently importing enriched uranium from Europe and plans to produce 60% of its uranium needs by 2010. The Brazilian government anticipates that it will be self-sufficient by 2014, allowing enough excess for export.

German daily newspaper *Die Welt* reported on 27 October that Egypt is taking steps to obtain nuclear weapons. With the help of Chinese technology, Egypt intends to mine uranium in the Sinai Peninsula to enrich its weapons-grade material in order to build long-range missiles. Egypt has denied such reports and the IAEA has no information pertaining to this recent development.

Such developments underline the need to reinforce and update the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) beyond changes made during the 1995 NPT Review Conference.

EI Baradei told reporters that the treaty has been overtaken by a world in which nuclear arms have become attractive not only to many countries but to "terrorist groups," and that multilateral efforts should be imposed to limit the expansion of civilian and military programs.

Sources: Agence France-Presse, 31 October 2003; Ha'aretz, 27 October 2003; Washington Post, 7 October 2003.

SPECULATION OF SAUDI-PAKISTAN NUCLEAR DEAL

Following last month's speculations on Saudi Arabia's plans to acquire nuclear weapons, a top Israeli intelligence official has accused the Saudi government of concluding a secret nuclear cooperation pact with Pakistan.

In exchange for discounted Saudi oil, Riyadh is reportedly planning to acquire its own nuclear deterrent by importing Pakistani nuclear warheads for use on its missiles.

Both Riyadh and Islamabad promptly denied such reports and, according to Pakistan Deputy Chief of Mission Mohammed Sadiq, "This is against our policy." Washington has tried to dispel international alarm and dismissed the reported deal by saying, "We've seen the allegation, but we have not seen any information to substantiate what would seem to us be rather bald assertions of a nuclear pact."

Confirmation of the deal would deeply affect the balance of power in the Middle East. Riyadh would risk violating its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and President Musharraf would break his assurances of controlling the country's nuclear arsenal.

Saudi Arabia's advancement of such negotiations could be motivated by the sophisticated nuclear program being undertaken by its strategic and religious rival Iran, as well as by the increasing exchange of military technology between Israel and India. The CIA suspects that Pakistan is already sharing its nuclear knowledge with North Korea in exchange for information on building a missile technology program.

Sources: The Pakistan Tribune, 27 October 2003; The Times of India, 24 October 2003; The Washington Times, 22 and 23 October 2003; Information Clearing House, 21 October 2003.

Weapons of Mass Destruction

ALUMINUM TUBES FOUND TO BE "INNOCUOUS"

The Iraq Survey Group revealed that the high strength aluminum tubes obtained by Iraq were not intended for uranium enrichment. Commander of the Joint Captured Enemy Materiel Exploitation Center, Brigadier General Stephen Meek, pronounced the tubes to be "innocuous."

Prior to the war, President George W. Bush said these tubes provided one of the strongest pieces of evidence that Iraq was seeking to rebuild its nuclear weapons program. The Bush administration claimed that these aluminum tubes were used as centrifuge rotors to enrich uranium for nuclear warheads. It has now been discovered that the tubes were used for rockets.

As recently as September 2003, Vice President Dick Cheney asserted that there was "compelling evidence that Saddam is reconstituting a uranium enrichment effort" and that investigators searching for confirmation of his judgments "will find in fact they are valid."

Since the war, it has become increasingly clear that Iraq did not have an active program to produce key materials or obtain the technology for the construction of nuclear weapons.

Sources: Global Security Newswire, 27 October 2003; Washington Post, 26 October 2003

Nuclear Disarmament & Non Proliferation

VOTING FOR NEW AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

In an attempt to address the increasing threat of nuclear proliferation, existing nuclear weapons and emerging nuclear doc-

trines, the New Agenda Coalition (NAC) sponsored two resolutions at the First Committee on Disarmament and International Security at the United Nations on 15 October 2003.

The first resolution, “*Towards a Nuclear Weapon Free World: a New Agenda*” is based on the Final Document of the 2000 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference where all parties to the NPT unanimously agreed to advance the nuclear disarmament agenda by means of 13 practical steps. The resolution expresses “deep concern at the limited progress to date” on implementing the 13 steps. It also urges the US and Russia to make the Moscow Treaty “a disarmament measure” by making it verifiable and irreversible, and by addressing non-operational warheads.

The second resolution, “*Reductions of Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons*,” specifically addresses the issue of tactical (sub-strategic or short range) nuclear weapons. It raises concerns on the threats posed by Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons (NSNW) “due to their portability, proximity to areas of conflict and probability of pre-delegation in case of military conflict.” It also addresses “the risk of proliferation and of early, preemptive, unauthorized or accidental use,” as well as shifting security doctrines and the “possible development of new types of low-yield” NSNW. The resolution highlights the need for transparent and verifiable measures to ensure the elimination of NSNW in the context of commitments made in the 2000 NPT Review Conference.

The resolution also warns nuclear weapons states against expanding or developing their NSNW arsenals and the rationalization of their use.

The New Agenda Coalition member countries are Brazil, Sweden, Mexico, Ireland, South Africa, New Zealand and Egypt.

Sources: *Reaching Critical Will First Committee Monitor, October 2003; Middle Powers Initiative Email bulletins, 24 and 29 October; Parliamentary Network for Nuclear Disarmament Parliamentary Conference and United Nations Update, October 2003.*

Missiles & Missile Defense

THE NEXT FRONTIER: DOMINATION OF SPACE

The Bush administration’s endorsement of “full spectrum dominance” and blatant disregard for international treaties sends a clear message to the international community of its intentions to dominate space through the combination of missile defense, “global surveillance” policies and space-based strike capabilities.

Especially threatened by the US missile defense project, China has requested agreements with the US in efforts to curb a potential space-based arms race. Washington’s

refusal to enter into negotiations has led China to follow the US in developing a program for the militarization of space. Beijing’s recent success in sending its first man to space suggests a fast-track approach to this goal.

The current Chinese deterrent force is comprised of 400-500 nuclear armed Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs). The two dozen ICBMs capable of reaching the US fall short of being able to reliably penetrate the proposed US missile defense system. In order for China to overcome this, they have committed to modernizing and expanding its nuclear arsenal.

Source: *The Boston Globe, 28 October 2003,*

PUTIN TO OVERCOME “ANY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM”

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced plans to reform Russia’s military and nuclear defense strategy. The move comes as a response to NATO policies where the creation of a rapid-reaction force and the participation of several former Soviet Bloc countries are viewed by some in the Russian government as “offensive” and “anti-Russian” in orientation.

Putin explained that the replacement of the older Soviet Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) with multi-warheads (SS19 ICBMs) would enhance Russia’s capacity to overcome any missile defense system.

A document released by the Russian defense ministry calls for a “change of Russian nuclear strategy,” a thorough modernization of its military planning to carry out global pre-emptive strikes and the ability to simultaneously fight two “conflicts of any type.” The document goes on to applaud the signing of the Moscow Treaty between Russia and the US in 2002, which allows for greater “cuts” in their nuclear arsenals. But although the treaty stipulates a decrease in the number of deployed strategic warheads in each country, it does not require the dismantlement of their nuclear warheads.

Sources: *Koinonia House E-News, 7 October 2003; The Moscow Times, 3 October 2003.*

International Law

Kyrgyzstan Ratifies Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

Kyrgyzstan has deposited its instrument of ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) on 2 October, bringing the total number of ratifications to 106 countries. There are currently 13 ratifications from the Middle East and South Asia.

Under the terms of the treaty, Kyrgyzstan will host an auxiliary seismic station, AS060 at Ala-Archa. This will be part of a 337-facility International Monitoring System (IMS)

designed to verify compliance with the CTBT.

The CTBT was opened for signature on 24 September 1996. It has so far achieved 32 of the 44 ratifications needed for it to enter into force.

Source: Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization Press Release, 13 October 2003.

Nuclear Energy & Waste

YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT AGAIN REPORTED UNFIT FOR NUCLEAR STORAGE

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (NWTRB) recently issued yet another warning to the US Department of Energy (DoE) cautioning officials that the Yucca Mountain project does not meet its strict quality assurance standards. In a letter, the Board expressed concerns over the effectiveness of the casks designated to hold indefinitely lethal, high-level nuclear waste. Specialists cited the waste package design as susceptible to corrosion and consequently prone to leaking deadly nuclear waste into the aquifer that serves as the only source of drinking water for the people of Amargosa Valley.

This alarming report, defining flaws in that Yucca Mountain Project, is nothing new for DoE officials. In January 2002, the Board declared that the science underlying the repository as “weak to moderate” indicating their limited confidence in the DoE’s performance assessment.

The problems arising from the defectiveness of the man-made casks, coupled with the inadequacies of the geological make-up of the mountain, point to an overall failure of the project.

Sources: Public Citizen Newsroom, 22 October 2003; United States Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board Letter to Dr. Margaret Chu, Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, 21 October 2003; Top Ten Reasons to Oppose the DoE’s Yucca Mountain Plan, by David Krieger and Marissa Zubia at NAPF, 23 August 2002.

MORE SHIPMENTS OF PLUTONIUM DESTINED FOR REPROCESSING IN FRANCE

The United States government is seeking to obtain a license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to ship 300 pounds of weapons-grade plutonium to France for processing into reactor fuel. These shipments are part of a larger program of reprocessing 34 tons of excess plutonium in the US nuclear program into a mixed oxide fuel for use in commercial US reactors.

Other nations are already shipping their radioactive waste, ranging from relatively harmless medical supplies to weapons-grade plutonium, to France for reprocessing. On 28 October, the Australian Nuclear Science Technology Organization reported that it had sent 344 spent fuel elements to France for reprocessing.

International environmental and anti-nuclear groups such as Greenpeace have opposed the shipment and reprocessing of nuclear waste, as the use of converted plutonium would blur the boundaries between military and commercial nuclear programs. Greenpeace nuclear materials expert Tom Clements said the plan by the Department of Energy “presents an unacceptable proliferation and safety risk and should be canceled.”

Sources: The Associated Press, 10 October, 2003; Reuters, 28 October, 2003.

TENNESSEE POWER PLANT PRODUCING TRITIUM FOR WARHEADS

Watts Bar Nuclear Plant at Knoxville, Tennessee resumed operation on 20 October, making it the only commercial nuclear station in the US to provide isotopes for bombs. The plant will produce both electricity and tritium for nuclear warheads. The US government has not produced tritium since 1988 when the Savannah River site in South Carolina was closed due to operational and safety problems.

Source: Associated Press, 22 October 2003.

EXPIRED NUCLEAR SUBMARINES POSE DILEMMA FOR UK

The UK Ministry of Defense is urgently investigating “publicly acceptable” solutions for disposing of 27 highly radioactive submarine reactors. Seven decommissioned submarines are currently docked in Fife and a further four in Devonport are awaiting disposal. The first submarine, Dreadnought, was taken out of service in 1980 and remains afloat until a national depository for nuclear waste becomes available. The 16 submarines currently in service (including four Trident submarines carrying UK’s nuclear weapons) are due to come to the end of their lifetime in 2012. There is at present insufficient mooring space to accommodate these vessels.

Source: *The Guardian*, 17 October 2003.

Nuclear Insanity

INDIA TO STATION NUKES IN SPACE

India announced on 6 October that it has commenced building an aerospace command station in order to position its nuclear weapons in space. Air Chief Krishnaswamy said this will provide India an edge to counter nuclear attacks.

Meanwhile, nineteen computers belonging to the top secret Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) have been stolen. The computers contained vital strategic data pertaining to India’s security. DRDO provided the encryption back up for protecting strategic communications for India’s nuclear arsenal.

Sources: *Hindustan times*, 10 October 2003; *The Daily Times*, 7 October 2003.

Foundation News

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT TO VISIT JAPAN

Foundation President David Krieger will be attending various events in Japan during November. He will be in Tokyo from 18-21 November for a Middle Powers Initiative delegation to the Japanese government, and in Nagasaki from 21-25 November to participate in the Second Nagasaki Global Citizens’ Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. On 25 November he will be giving a lecture to the Soka Gakkai Youth of Kyushu in Nagasaki.

NEW RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY COORDINATOR JOINS FOUNDATION

We are pleased to welcome Justine Wang as our new Research and Advocacy Coordinator. Justine recently served as the Information and Peace

Education Officer at Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) in London. Justine earned her Masters degree in International Politics at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London.

PEACE POETRY WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Foundation has announced the winners of its 2003 Barbara Mandigo Kelly Peace Poetry Contest.

This year, first place in the Adult category was awarded to Jacqueline Dickey of South Bend, IN for her poem, “Claribel Alegria in Exile.” First place in the Youth 13-18 category was awarded to Rachel Belloma of Pittsburgh, PA for her poem entitled, “Tantrum.” In the Youth 12 and Under category, there was a first place tie between Daniel Amoss of Jefferson, LA for his poem entitled, “Ali Ismail Abbas” and Erika Lynne Tiemeier of Cherry Hills Village, CO for her poem entitled, “Fire Burning in My Heart.”

To read the winning poems, go to

<http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/programs/awards-&-contests/bmk-contest/2003-winners.htm>

FOUNDATION TO CO-CONVENE SYMPOSIUM ON INTERNATIONAL LAW

NAPF and the Simons Center for Peace and Disarmament Studies will co-convene a symposium on “Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity: The Challenge of Prevention and Enforcement.”

Speakers will include:

- The Honorable Lloyd Axworthy, Director and CEO, Liu Institute for Global Studies, University of British Columbia; - -
- Former Foreign Minister of Canada 1995-2000
- Richard Falk, Professor Emeritus of International Law and Practice at Princeton University; Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara; Chair of NAPF Board of Directors
- Felicity Hill, Program Specialist, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
- Victoria Holt, Senior Associate, Future of Peace Operations Project, The Henry L. Stimson Center
- Peter Langille, Professor, Center for Global Studies, University of Victoria
- Saul Mendlovitz, Co-founder, Global Action to Prevent War Bill Pace, Executive Director, World Federalist Association

Topics:

- The Responsibility to Prevent and Protect
- The Politics of Prevention and Enforcement in a Time of Mega-Terrorism
- Options for a United Nations Prevention and Enforcement Force
- Next Steps in Creating a UN Prevention and Enforcement Force

The event will take place on 5 December between 9:00 am -12:30 pm and is free and open to the public. It will take place at the McCune Conference Centre at the University of California, Santa Barbara. For more information contact Chris Pizzinat at the Foundation at 805.965.3443 or cpizzinat@napf.org.

NAPF 20TH ANNUAL EVENING FOR PEACE

NAPF will celebrate 20 years of waging peace by hosting its 20th Annual Evening Peace on 15 November. The Foundation will present its 2003 World Citizenship Award to singer/songwriter Harry Belafonte and its 2003 Distinguished Peace Leadership Award to Pulitzer Prize-nominee writer and educator Jonathan Schell. The dinner and award ceremony will be held at the Doubletree Resort in Santa Barbara, CA. Tickets are still available. For reservations and information, please contact Chris Pizzinat at 805.965.3443 or cpizzinat@napf.org.

WMD, THE US AND UC: THE 'WAR ON TERROR' AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT ACTIVISM

On 24 October, Foundation Youth Outreach Coordinator, Michael Coffey, and third-year UCLA political science major, Michael Cox, joined Ambassador Joseph Wilson for a panel discussion titled, "WMD: the US and UC." The panel was one in a series of workshops, screenings, and performances held at the UCLA Hammer Museum, collectively titled "Represent! Ideas. Music. Action." Cox served a key role as student-liaison in organizing Represent! Speaking on Michael's contribution, Sarah Stifler, Head of Public Programs at the Hammer, said, "Michael Cox was absolutely instrumental in making the Represent! event happen and was key to our UCLA connection. His dedication and hard work are inspiring." New Foundation Research and Advocacy Coordinator Justine Wang and Foundation volunteer Brit Fenton-Olsen participated in Represent! as did former Foundation intern and current UCLA Ph.D. candidate, Maiko Yasuno. Plans are for Represent! to visit other major college campuses in the months ahead.

RICHARD FALK KEY SPEAKER AT UN DAY

NAPF Board Chair Richard Falk delivered the keynote presentation at a day-long seminar on "Addressing the Unintended Consequences of War" sponsored by UNA-USA, League of Women Voters and NAPF on UN Day, 25 October. The event was hosted by Peter Haslund, a NAPF Board member and Director of the International and Global Studies Program at Santa Barbara City College. Other speakers on the morning panel were John Stoessinger, Distinguished Professor at San Diego University and UC San Diego; Juan E Campo Co-Director of the UCSB Center for Middle East Studies; and Mark Juergensmeyer, Director of the Global and International Studies Program at UCSB. A two part video on the seminar is available, please contact Dennis Daneau at ddaneau@pacbell.net for more information.

FOUNDATION ADVISOR RECEIVES LANNAN AWARD

The Santa Fe-based Lannan Foundation honored NAPF Advisor Helen Caldicott with its 2003 prize for Cultural Freedom for her dedicated and passionate advocacy.

At the age of 15, Helen Caldicott read the book "On the Beach" about nuclear war and subsequently has spent decades fighting nuclear weapons and educating people about the medical dangers of the nuclear age. Caldicott announced that part of the \$350,000 award will go to the Nuclear Policy Research Institute (NPRI), an organization she founded in early 2003.

Resources

MISSILES OF EMPIRE: AMERICA'S 21ST CENTURY GLOBAL LEGIONS

The Western States Legal Foundation (WSLF) is a non-profit, public interest organization which monitors and analyzes U.S. nuclear weapons programs and policies and related high technology energy and weapons programs. This new Information Bulletin from Western States Legal Foundation is now available on <http://www.wslfweb.org/docs/missiles03.pdf>. Paper copies available on request.

HERE THERE BE DRAGONS: NUCLEAR POLITICS WRIT LARGE IN THE UNKNOWN WATERS OF THE POST 9/11 WORLD

The report written by Janet Bloomfield and Pamela S. Meidell at the Atomic Mirror was launched on UN Day among the delegates of the UN First Committee on Disarmament and International Security. Atomic Mirror has been producing this "report card" since 1996, using the Abolition 2000 Statement and Moorea Declaration as guides. For copies email: pamela@atomicmirror.org or log onto www.earthways.org/atomicmirror .

NAPF WAGING PEACE NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Foundation's Waging Peace Newsletter is published three times each year. This is now available online on <http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/resources/publications/wagingpeace/index.htm>

LAUNCH OF NEW WAGINGPEACE WEBSITE

NAPF has recently launched a completely revised and updated version of its website at <http://www.wagingpeace.org>. We invite you to explore our new site with up-to-date articles, Action Center and all the other great sections on the site.

NUCLEAR BASICS AT NUCLEARFILES.ORG

Visit the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Nuclear Files website. Visitors can 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 nuclear history into the classroom. Visit Nuclear Files at <http://www.nuclearfiles.org>.

Quotable

"We must continue that work of serving humanity wherever its needs are greatest. We must continue helping you, the peoples of the world, to find common solutions to common problems. And we will."

- Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General, on United Nations Day, 24 October 2003

"He is setting an example for every nation in the world, if you don't like what is going on with your neighbor it's perfectly all right to go to war with them."

- Walter Cronkite, former CBS anchorman, referring to Bush's decision to attack Iraq, which he called the "worst policy decision this nation has ever made," 10 October, 2003

"Today we lack metrics to know if we are winning or losing the global war on terror. Are we capturing, killing or deterring and dissuading more terrorists every day than the madrassas and the radical clerics are recruiting, training and deploying against us?"

- Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense, from his leaked memorandum to Pentagon leaders questioning progress in the US war on terrorism, 16 October 2003

"It is time for this Administration to admit that it was wrong, and turn in a new direction. We need a genuine plan that acknowledges the realities on the ground. We need a plan that gives real authority to the United Nations, so that other nations truly will share the burden. We need to actively engage the Iraqi people in governing and rebuilding their country. Our soldiers now risking their lives in Iraq deserve no less."

- U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy during Senate Floor Remarks on Bush's \$87 billion supplemental request for the Iraq war, 16 October 2003.

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