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## *Perspectives*

### **FIRST PRESIDENTIAL MANDATE: PROTECT US FROM NUCLEAR TERRORISM AND PROLIFERATION**

The primary mandate of President George W. Bush is to protect US citizens. In fact, Republicans and Democrats alike agree that nuclear proliferation and terrorism are THE greatest threats facing the US. In his second term, President Bush has the opportunity to make Americans - and people all over the world - safer and more secure by implementing responsible nuclear policies that will prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and prevent terrorists from obtaining and using nuclear weapons, technology and materials.

To accomplish these goals, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation recommends that President Bush's first order of business in his second term should be providing global leadership to create and maintain a worldwide inventory of nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons materials and to place these weapons and materials under strict international safeguards. The US should also immediately increase its efforts and devote more resources to securing loose nuclear weapons and materials in Russia.

Preventing nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism cannot be based on double-standards. A US nuclear policy that relies on these weapons for the foreseeable future, combined with the doctrine of preemptive warfare, encourages other nations to acquire nuclear weapons in pursuit of their own security needs. President Bush should immediately cease all efforts to create a dangerous new generation of nuclear weapons, including the Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator ("bunker-busters") and low-yield nuclear weapons ("mini-nukes"). Researching and developing new generations of nuclear weapons undermines US credibility in persuading other nations not to pursue their own nuclear arsenals.

President Bush has said that the US must shoulder the responsibility of leading global efforts to halt proliferation of nuclear weapons. To do this, the US must lead all nuclear weapons states in fulfilling their existing obligations under international law to pursue the phased elimination of nuclear weapons. There is no other way to assure that these weapons will not be obtained or used by terrorists or states hostile to the US.

"President Bush's number one mandate this term is to fulfill his campaign promise to protect US citizens from the greatest threats facing us today - nuclear proliferation and terrorism," stated David Krieger, President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. "President Bush must restore US credibility around the world by implementing responsible nuclear policies."

### **A NEW BRIDGE TO NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

by Douglas Roche

A bridge on the long road to nuclear disarmament was built when eight NATO States supported a New Agenda Coalition resolution at the United Nations calling for more speed in implementing commitments to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The bridge gained extra strength when Japan and South Korea joined with the NATO 8 - Belgium, Canada, Germany, Lithuania, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway and Turkey.

These States, along with the New Agenda countries - Brazil, Egypt, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and Sweden - now form an impressive and perhaps formidable center in the nuclear weapons debate and can play a determining role in the outcome of the 2005 NPT Review Conference.

The bridge they have formed links the nuclear weapons States, which are entrenching nuclear weapons in their military doctrines, and the Non-Aligned Movement, which wants immediate negotiations on a time-bound program for nuclear disarmament.

It is hard to know what to call this new collection of important States in the center. It is certainly not an entity. To be called a working partnership, it will at least have to pursue a common goal. And it is by no means certain that the tensions within the center can be contained. Nonetheless, the strategy adopted by the New Agenda Coalition to make its annual resolution at the U.N. First Committee more attractive particularly to the NATO and like-minded States - and thus shore up the moderate middle in the nuclear weapons debate - is working.

Although the bridge needs strengthening, it is firm enough for the centrist States to exert leverage on the nuclear weapons States to take minimum steps to save the NPT in 2005

To read the complete article visit:  
[http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2004/10/30\\_roche\\_ne\\_w-bridge-disarmament.htm](http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2004/10/30_roche_ne_w-bridge-disarmament.htm)

## Take Action

### THE ELECTION IS BEHIND US, THE WORK IS BEFORE US

From the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation Staff

The US presidential election is behind us and the pressing issues that lay dormant during the campaign season will soon resurface. One positive result of the presidential race is that both President Bush and Senator Kerry brought bipartisan support to the fact that nuclear proliferation is the single greatest threat to US national security. Both Kerry and Bush acknowledged that the United States and the world have a long way to go to ensure that nuclear materials are accounted for and secure. Now, it is up to us, the American people, to make sure our leadership follows through in responsibly addressing this pressing problem.

The harrowing story of the Nuclear Age is far from over. In fact, a new chapter is being written, one in which the dangers of terrorism and preemptive war compound the nuclear threat and give rise to new, unanticipated problems. To solve these problems will require all Americans to recognize that everyone is threatened by nuclear weapons and we must cooperate with the world community to conceive and implement peaceful and sane solutions.

Turn the Tide, a campaign of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, seeks to work for positive change in US nuclear policy by engaging political leaders and the public, regardless of political affiliation. A Republican-controlled

Congress and Presidency does not change the issues, just as a Democratic government would not change our mission of "significantly reducing and eliminating the threats posed by nuclear weapons." In the coming months, as Congress reconvenes and President Bush renews his agenda, we will bring to you the latest in nuclear weapons, energy, and waste news from Washington , D.C. and around the country, as well as what actions YOU can take to ensure a safer and more secure world free from the nuclear threat.

Please visit Turn the Tide ([www.chartinganewcourse.org](http://www.chartinganewcourse.org)) regularly to keep track of key Congressional votes, legislative and presidential actions, and to learn what actions you can take.

### ABOLITION NOW! AND MAYORS FOR PEACE EMERGENCY CAMPAIGN

In the coming months the Abolition 2000 Network is focusing its energies and resources on the Abolition Now! Dare to Plan! Campaign. Abolition Now! is working in collaboration with the Mayors for Peace Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons to create the political will and commitment among individuals, citizen groups, community and civic leaders to call for concrete plans for a nuclear-free future and the total abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020. Currently, more than 600 Mayors in over 100 cities across the globe have joined efforts with Mayors for Peace. In the US, more than 60 Mayors, from California to New Jersey, have signed the statement calling for the commencement of negotiations to eliminate nuclear weapons.

In this 60th anniversary year of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Abolition Now! asks you to envision a nuclear weapons-free world. You can help the campaign by enrolling your Mayor in the Mayors for Peace Campaign, and attending the Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in April-May 2005.

For more information and to get involved in the campaign, visit the Abolition Now! website at [www.abolitionnow.org](http://www.abolitionnow.org).

It's time for nations to give us their plans for nuclear disarmament. The time for nuclear disarmament and abolition is now!

### ENERGY COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars; the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) will hold its Annual Conference in Washington DC from 3-4 March 2005. Topics covered at the conference will include environmental management, legacy management, and long-term stewardship. The ECA works with communities impacted by US Department of Energy activities. To learn more please visit [www.energyca.org](http://www.energyca.org)

# Proliferation

## TENTATIVE DEAL REACHED WITH IRAN

In October and November, negotiations continued between Iran and representatives from France, Germany, and Britain over the country's alleged nuclear ambitions. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) issued Iran a November 25th deadline to halt all its uranium enrichment-related activities and provide answers to all questions about its nuclear program.

The most recent negotiations between Iran and the Western European countries concluded late on 6 November. Under the deal reached, Iran would freeze all nuclear fuel enrichment and reprocessing activities until it has reached a final agreement with the European Union (EU) over a package of economic, technological and security incentives in return for abandoning potentially weapons-related nuclear activities. According to an EU diplomat, "The time frame (of the enrichment suspension) will be given by the pace of reaching overall agreement." The agreement now awaits the go-ahead from Iran's clerical leadership.

Tehran has been walking a fine line between insisting that it has a right to peaceful nuclear energy as a signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and appeasing the European negotiators and the US. Iran has been under increasing international scrutiny since the IAEA reported in November 2003 that the Mideast nation had conducted several nuclear activities in violation of its safeguards agreement. For months, the US has insisted that the European Union report Iran to the United Nations Security Council for possible economic sanctions, but the US has been noticeably quiet during the recent negotiation rounds.

A member of President Bush's "axis of evil," there has been much speculation about whether or not the US and/or Israel (an "unofficial" nuclear power) will take military action against Iran in the event that that country does not capitulate to the demands to abandon uranium enrichment. For its part, Israel has hinted that it may use air strikes similar to its 1981 bombing of Iraq's unfinished nuclear plant near Baghdad. However, it is far from certain that Western powers, including the US, are moving towards military action or whether Iran would allow a crisis in which such plans could become politically feasible. European leaders have forcefully cast aside predictions of use of force.

"The prospect of it happening is inconceivable," British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw told BBC radio on November 4th. "I don't see any circumstances in which military action would be justified against Iran, full stop."

Sources: *Bahrain Daily News*, 8 November 2004; *Reuters*, 7 November 2004; *BBC Radio*, 4 November; *The Sunflower*, October 2004.

## TAIWAN DENIES PLUTONIUM EXPERIMENTS

On 11 October, Taiwan denied that its nuclear weapons program, which was abandoned in the 1980s, involved experimenting with separating plutonium. The denial came after allegations surfaced in Vienna, Austria where International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) diplomats said they found samples indicating plutonium experiments were conducted 20 years ago in Taiwan.

Yang Chao-yie, deputy chairman of Taiwan's Atomic Energy Council, said that the alleged experiments didn't happen and that scientists only researched the possibility of making nuclear arms. Yang stated, "We never made any plutonium separation experiments, not in the 1980s, and not earlier. The program was just research."

IAEA officials said they would not comment on the remarks by the diplomats, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Taiwan's nuclear project began in the 1960s, was stopped in the 1970s and briefly revived in the 1980s. According to Andrew Yang, a defense analyst at the Chinese Council of Advanced Policy Studies, the Taiwanese scientists were trying to process plutonium before the project was shut down under US pressure. The program was closed down shortly after a Taiwanese military officer, Chang Hsien-yi, defected to America in 1988 with information about the program.

Atomic Energy Council Deputy Chairman Yang said Taiwan has a policy of complete openness with the IAEA inspectors. He stated, "We completely agree to all the requests the inspectors make, wherever they want to go, whenever they want to go. We agree to anything."

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue said China is investigating the reports, but can't comment until more is known. Any Taiwanese nuclear weapons program would have been developed with China, in mind. A civil war more than five decades ago split the two sides. China continues to claim the self-ruled island as its own, and has threatened the use of force if Taiwan declares formal independence.

Source: AP, 14 October 2004.

## **US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION CLOSES ONLINE LIBRARY**

On 26 October, the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) announced that it temporarily closed public access to its online document library, its electronic hearing docket files, and to NRC staff documents related to NRC consideration of a high-level nuclear waste repository, pending a review to determine what potentially sensitive documents should be removed because they might be useful to terrorists. While the NRC claims that its website does not contain classified material, a statement issued by the agency said that the NRC "is widening its review to remove additional information that could potentially be of use to a terrorist." The action came after US corporate news networks reported that among the items found on the NRC Web site were detailed information on the location of radioactive substances - generally used in medicine and for industrial purposes - that could be used to make a so-called dirty bomb. In some cases the data included detailed building diagrams pinpointing the location of the material in hospitals and other facilities.

After the terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001, the NRC removed some 1,000 documents from its website. While the current closure of the NRC's online library to review what sensitive documents should be removed because they might be useful to terrorists is a welcome move, it is too little and comes too late. More than three years after the 11 September attacks on the US, the possibility of terrorists getting their hands on nuclear materials has greatly increased. The NRC has betrayed US security and safety by not properly removing all detailed information on its website regarding the location of radioactive substances that could be used to make a dirty bomb.

Source: AP, 26 October 2004.

## **SWITZERLAND OPENS NUCLEAR INVESTIGATION, PAKISTANI SCIENTIST REMAINS IN CUSTODY**

On 13 October, prosecutors opened an investigation into two Swiss citizens suspected of illegally exporting nuclear weapons technology to Libya. If the Swiss suspects are tried and convicted of violating sanctions and illegally exporting war material they could face as much as 10 years in prison and a \$4 million fine.

Hansjuerg Mark Wiedmer, the spokesman for the prosecutors, declined to identify the suspects. However, one investigative source said one suspect is Swiss engineer Urs Tinner, who was arrested in Germany the first week of October. In February, the Swiss agency that polices adherence to international sanctions disclosed that it had opened an investigation to determine whether Tinner had broken Swiss law by making gas centrifuge parts needed to enrich uranium in Malaysia. The centrifuges were intercepted in October 2003 on a ship destined for Libya. Tinner is believed to have been part of the international clandestine network of Pakistani scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan, which helped Libya's nuclear program. Tinner also allegedly trained Libyans on how to use the gas centrifuges.

Meanwhile, judges in Pakistan ruled on 25 October that scientist Mohammad Farooq, arrested last year for allegedly being involved in leaking nuclear technology, will be detained for another three months. Farooq worked at the research laboratory headed by Abdul Qadeer Khan and is the only laboratory employee who remains in custody after Khan admitted selling nuclear technology to other countries. More than ten other scientists and officials originally held as part of the investigation in Pakistan have been released. Khan himself was pardoned earlier this year by Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf.

Source: BBC News, 25 October 2004; AP, 13 October 2004.

## **RUSSIAN SCIENTIST SURRENDERS WEAPONS-GRADE NUCLEAR MATERIAL**

On 2 November, a Russian nuclear scientist Leonid Grigorov surrendered eight containers filled with weapons-grade nuclear material to authorities after storing it in his garage for eight years. According to Itar-Tass Russian news agency, the scientist found 14 ounces of plutonium-238 in a heap of garbage at his laboratory near Russia's border with Kazakhstan. The lab, which was looted after the collapse of the Soviet Union, was eventually closed and deserted.

Grigorov decided to hide the material in a box and only handed it in to local police after a newspaper offered a reward to anyone who surrendered weapons. Grigorov stated, "As an expert, I knew that I had to hide it to avoid tragic consequences." Plutonium-238 is generally used to generate heat, but if mixed with other materials, could be used in a nuclear explosive device. It is much more radioactive than plutonium-239, the radioactive isotope normally used in nuclear bombs.

In a separate incident, 97 pounds of radioactive scrap metal was also reported discovered on 2 November in Chelyabinsk. The region is heavily polluted with radioactive material from its nuclear reactor and plants producing plutonium for atomic bombs. The local Mayak nuclear complex dumped 2.68 billion cubic feet of highly radioactive waste into a river between 1949 and 1956 and suffered an explosion in 1957, showering radiation over the southern Urals mountain region.

Russia, with its huge nuclear arsenal, is under pressure to prevent dangerous material from falling into the hands of terrorists after the Soviet collapse left many nuclear facilities under-protected. There is also speculation that individual nuclear scientists, underpaid since the Soviet collapse, may be secretly transferring sensitive technology to what the US calls "rogue" states for cash. Russia denies such activity.

Sources: Reuters, 2 November 2004; Itar-Tass News Agency, 2 November 2004.

## Nuclear Legacy

### NUCLEAR RADIATION IN THE ARCTIC

According to a 1991-2002 study by the Norwegian Nuclear Protection Authority released on 12 October 2004, nuclear radiation levels are beginning to decline in the Arctic, years after Soviet nuclear weapons tests and the Chernobyl nuclear accident spewed their fallout over the region. However, the region, with its fragile ecosystems, remains at risk from aging nuclear weapons, submarines, power plants and waste from the former Soviet Union. The study was done in cooperation with the Russian environment and meteorology agency Roshydromet.

Per Strand, of the Norwegian Nuclear Protection Authority, stated, "The Arctic is the most sensitive region for nuclear fallout, yet parts of the Arctic have the world's greatest concentration of nuclear materials. The levels are going down in the Arctic, which is a good thing. But it has taken much longer than in the rest of the world."

According to Strand, tundra vegetation, including mosses, mushrooms and grasses, absorbs more radiation than most plants. That radiation is then passed on to animals, such as reindeer, and in turn to the people who eat them, including the Arctic's indigenous Sami herders.

The impact of the nuclear power plant accident at Chernobyl, in Ukraine, can still be measured in the Arctic. But the study also examined other sources of radiation, including a nuclear-armed US B-52 bomber that carried four nuclear weapons and crashed and burned in Greenland in 1968.

Strand said the greatest threat comes from the Kola Peninsula in northwest Russia, which has the world's greatest concentration of nuclear materials. The Arctic peninsula, which borders Norway and Finland, is home to Russia's North Fleet that includes 52 decommissioned and rundown nuclear submarines, many of which still have nuclear fuel on board. At least two Russian nuclear submarines have sunk while on patrol in the Arctic in the past 15 years.

The Arctic peninsula is also home to depots of nuclear weapons and a decommissioned nuclear power plant. According to the Norwegian environmental group Bellona, about 21,000 spent nuclear fuel assemblies are stored there and many of the containers are leaking.

Source: AP, 13 October 2004.

### US NAVY CLOSES PROJECT ELF

On 30 September, the US Navy announced that they are closing Project ELF (extremely low frequency), the communications system for the 18 Trident nuclear submarines stationed off the coasts of Georgia and Washington State. Project ELF consisted of two antenna located near Clam Lake, Wisconsin and Republic, Michigan that projected 1.3 million watts of electricity into the earth and sent one-way commands to submerged Trident submarines.

Trident submarines contain 24 missiles that are each tipped with eight nuclear warheads. Each submarine carries an explosive force more than 1,500 times greater than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima during World War II.

According to the US Navy, Project ELF is now obsolete due to "improvements in communications technology and the changing requirements of today's Navy." The Navy said that communications with the submarines will now be performed by the 12 very low frequency transmitters located around the world.

Activists are claiming victory in the closure. For years, they have argued that Project ELF served as the trigger for nuclear weapons and thus presented one of the greatest dangers to international security and nuclear disarmament. Activists were also concerned because there is evidence that the electrical pulses released by Project ELF were compromising the health of wildlife and community members surrounding the facility. Electrical frequencies such as those emitted by Project ELF have been linked to leukemia and may have caused internal bleeding in marine life around the submarines. US

Representative David Obey (D-Wisconsin) said in 1994, "The Navy has never been able to prove that the system is safe for the people or the wildlife living near it."

Since 1991, disarmament and peace activists have gathered at Project ELF nearly 60 times, often practicing nonviolent civil disobedience in order to raise awareness of Project ELF and its implications for global peace. More than 600 citations have been issued to activists at Project ELF, which has resulted in more than nine years of jail or prison time served by activists.

John LaForge, of Nukewatch in Wisconsin, said, "We did it. This is another victory for nonviolence.... No attention was ever paid to [Project] ELF unless we were out there putting ourselves in legal jeopardy. After so many years of actions, trials, and jail-going, cynics said to us, 'You've failed.' But we hadn't lost, because we never gave up." Bonnie Urfer, also of Nukewatch, said, "I feel relief for the people of the area and the local environment."

Source: *Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety Alert*, 20-29 October 2004.

## **SWEDEN DENIES VANUNU ASYLUM**

On 29 October, the Swedish immigration department announced that Mordechai Vanunu, who was freed on 21 April 2004 after 18 years in an Israeli prison for revealing the country's nuclear program, will not receive asylum in Sweden. Since his release earlier this year, Vanunu has been subject to a series of sweeping restrictions in Israel, including a ban on traveling abroad as well as holding unauthorized meetings with foreigners.

According to Mats Baurmann, a spokesman for the Swedish Migration Board, the rejection had to do with the fact that Vanunu is still living in Israel, meaning that he can not technically be considered a refugee. Since his release, Vanunu, 50, has frequently said he wants to leave Israel where he is widely reviled as a traitor for not only for revealing the Jewish state's nuclear program, but also for converting to Christianity. During a BBC interview in mid-October, Vanunu stated, "The only way to feel and enjoy freedom and start my new life as a free human being will be when I can leave Israel and live my life in the US, in Europe or in London."

Vanunu was abducted by Israeli secret service agents in Italy, smuggled back to Israel and then jailed in 1986 after leaking top-secret details about Israel's Dimona nuclear plant to the UK Sunday Times.

Source: AFP, 29 October 2004.

## **Nuclear Laboratories**

### **WORK STILL HALTED AT LOS ALAMOS**

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), the nation's primary nuclear weapons design lab, entered its third month of a shutdown after classified electronic materials were discovered missing in July and a student was injured by a laser. This latest debacle comes on the heels of a string of security, management, and safety scandals that date back to at least 1999. The shutdown costs taxpayers approximately \$4 million each day in lost productivity. Top Los Alamos officials say they expect all high-risk activities to resume in November, although the fallout from the episode continues.

In response to congressional and public pressure to fix Los Alamos, Lab Director Pete Nanos has ordered the reshuffling of management and has initiated investigations into employee malfeasance, an inquiry which resulted in the axing or suspension of at least 12 employees. In addition, the shutdown will almost certainly have an effect on the ensuing competitive bidding for management of LANL.

On 14 October, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham, whose duties include oversight of LANL, detoured through Los Alamos to let employees know that he thinks they and Lab Director Pete Nanos are on their way to regaining the nation's trust after two years of management mishaps. He said he fully supports Nanos' decision to suspend work and take strong disciplinary action against "those few who thought they didn't need to follow the rules" for security and safety. Abraham said that lawmakers in Washington, D.C. have "very different ideas" for LANL, "The most benign suggestions involve curtailing work here; others are more draconian." Abraham told employees, "I recognize that the past few months have not been easy for any of us," and said that "we are in this boat together." He also said that lab critics are wrong and he is convinced "the glory days of this facility lie ahead."

For over 60 years, the University of California has managed LANL for the Department of Energy (DoE), but last year the DoE ordered the contract to be put up for competition among interested universities, private companies, or partnerships

thereof. In October, the National Nuclear Security Administration announced the timeline for the bidding process, which set a mid-October date for the release of the Draft Request for Proposals, the first significant step in submitting a bid. To date, the Draft RFP has not been made public, although the Universities of California and Texas, Texas A&M, and major defense contractors such as Bechtel, Northrop-Grumman, Titan, and others have expressed interest and are probably preparing bids. According to the Western States Legal Foundation, Halliburton is likely to toss its hat into the ring as well.

Opposition groups at the Universities of California and Texas, as well as a host of community and watchdog organizations, are opposing the management of Los Alamos by any university.

The Associated Press reported that when John Kerry campaigned in Albuquerque in October, he said, "Los Alamos...would play a critical role in developing energy technology to help the nation reduce its dependence on foreign oil" and "pledged support for expanding renewable energy sources..." Los Alamos has seen its budget for weapons programs - some 80% of its total budget - increase considerably during the Bush administration. A small percentage of LANL's \$2.1 billion budget currently goes towards research and development of alternative energy sources.

In another odd security breach discovery, firefighters and LANL's security force found a hermit living in a cave on LANL property when they were called to investigate a plume of smoke. Roy Michael Moore, a 56-year-old who grew up in Amarillo, Texas, said he came to Los Alamos about four years ago. "From the campsite that I saw, he had been there quite a long time," said Los Alamos deputy fire chief Doug Tucker. "He had all the comforts of home... I was really impressed with his ability to set up a camp."

Moore was growing (and using) Marijuana in his cave and was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance, a fourth-degree felony, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a misdemeanor. Those charges were dropped by request of a prosecutor, pending further investigation, but could be re-filed in the state District Court. DoE officials said Moore posed no security threat and that the area where the cave was located - about half a mile from downtown Los Alamos - has been decommissioned as an active site for years.

"I don't know if anyone has tried squatting on DOE property before or not," said Bernie Pleau, a spokesman for DoE and the National Nuclear Security Administration in Los Alamos. "Pretty strange, don't you think?"

Sources: Albuquerque Journal, 30 October 2004; Santa Fe New Mexican, 30 October 2004; Albuquerque Journal, 29 October 2004; Albuquerque Journal, 15 October 2004.

## Iraq

### THE IRAQ DEBACLE

October and the beginning of November have proven that Iraq is the biggest US debacle since Vietnam. In just the last month, nuclear materials and equipment were discovered missing; a new report on the civilian body count was released claiming that more than 100,000 civilians have died directly or indirectly because of the war; and coalition support is waning with many countries pulling their troops out.

#### Missing Nuclear Materials

On 10 October, the government of Iraq reported to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that 350 metric tons of high explosives were missing from storage sites subject to IAEA monitoring. In a statement to the IAEA, the Iraqi government wrote that the materials went missing "after 9 April 2003, through the theft and looting of the governmental installations due to lack of security." After verifying the letter and concerned about the security of the Iraqi people and multinational troops, as well as the potential proliferation implications, IAEA Director-General Mohamed ElBaradei brought the information to the attention of the US Government, in its capacity as commander of the Coalition Forces in Iraq on 15 October. On 25 October, ElBaradei reported the situation to the United Nations Security Council. Satellite imagery shows entire buildings in Iraq, that once housed high-precision equipment that could be used to make a nuclear bomb, have been dismantled. According to ElBaradei, equipment and materials also have been removed from open storage areas in Iraq and have disappeared without a trace.

The equipment ? including high-precision milling and turning machines and electron-beam welders ? and materials ? such as high-strength aluminum ? were tagged by the IAEA years ago, as part of the agency's shutdown of Iraq's nuclear program. UN inspectors then monitored the sites until their evacuation from Iraq just before the war. The United States barred the inspectors' return after the war, preventing the IAEA from keeping tabs on the equipment and materials up to the present day.

Under non-proliferation agreements, the US occupation authorities who administered Iraq until June, and then the Iraqi interim government that took power at the end of June, would have to inform the IAEA if they moved or exported any of that material or equipment. But the IAEA has not received any such report since the invasion. Not the US, the Iraqi government, or the IAEA know exactly where these materials and equipment are now.

#### Iraqi Civilian Body Count Higher Than Previously Thought

On 29 October, The Lancet, a British medical journal, published a study online by a research team from Johns Hopkins University's Bloomberg School of Public Health,

Disaster and Refugee Studies, as well as doctors from Al Mustansiriya University Medical School in Baghdad, which states that more than 100,000 civilians have probably died as direct or indirect consequences of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. The figure is far higher than previous mortality estimates that have put the number at most in the tens of thousands.

In the study, teams of researchers spread out across Iraq in mid-September to interview nearly 1,000 families in 33 previously selected locations. Families were interviewed about births and deaths in the household before and after the invasion.

According to the report, Iraqis were 2.5 times more likely to die in the 17 months following the invasion than in the 14 months before it. Before the invasion, the most common causes of death in Iraq were heart attacks, strokes and chronic diseases. Afterward, violent death was far ahead of all other causes.

According to Dr. Gilbert Burnham of the Johns Hopkins study team, the team had excluded deaths in Falluja in their estimate, since that city was the site of unusually intense violence. In 15 of the 33 communities visited, residents reported violent deaths in the family since the conflict started in March 2003. They attributed many of those deaths to attacks by coalition forces ? mostly airstrikes ? and most of the reported deaths were of women and children. Researchers also found that the risk of violent death was 58 times higher than before the war.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said in a BBC radio interview, "This is a very high estimate, indeed. Because it's in *The Lancet*, it is obviously something we have to look at in a very serious way."

Former senior UN weapons inspector Scott Ritter drove the point home in an editorial that appeared in *The Guardian* on 1 November, in which he stated:

"But we all are moral cowards when it comes to Iraq. Our collective inability to summon the requisite shame and rage when confronted by an estimate of 100,000 dead Iraqi civilians in the prosecution of an illegal and unjust war not only condemns us, but adds credibility to those who oppose us. The fact that a criminal such as Osama bin Laden can broadcast a videotape on the eve of the US presidential election in which his message is viewed by many around the world as a sober argument in support of his cause is the harshest indictment of the failure of the US and Britain to implement sound policy in the aftermath of 9/11. The death of 3,000 civilians on that horrible day represented a tragedy of huge proportions. Our continued indifference to a war that has slaughtered so many Iraqi civilians, and will continue to kill more, is in many ways an even greater tragedy: not only in terms of scale, but also because these deaths were inflicted by our own hand in the course of an action that has no defense."

## Coalition Support Wanes

On 3 November, Hungary announced that it would withdraw its 300 troops from Iraq, becoming the latest country in US-led coalition to bow to public pressure and prepare to bring its soldiers home.

The US had persuaded 32 countries to provide 22,000 soldiers as part of the multinational force established to stabilize post-war Iraq. But over the last few months, a number of countries have withdrawn, some citing the cost but others concerned about security, and many governments face increasing public opposition to the war.

Spain's Socialist government withdrew its 1,300 troops after it came into power in March, reversing the commitment of the prior center-right government of Prime Minister José María Aznar. The Dominican Republic withdrew 302 soldiers, Nicaragua 115 and Honduras 370. The Philippines withdrew its 51 in July, a month early, after insurgents took hostage a Filipino truck driver working for a Saudi company. Norway withdrew 155 military engineers, keeping only 15 staff members to help NATO train and equip the Iraqi security forces.

Two large contributors to the international force - Britain, with 12,000 troops, and Italy, with more than 3,100 - have insisted they will not withdraw. However, Poland, the fourth-largest contributor, with 2,400 troops, says it intends to withdraw by the end of next year, and the Netherlands, with 1,400 troops, said in the last week of October that the latest rotation of troops would be its last contribution to Iraq.

New Zealand is withdrawing its 60 engineers and Thailand said it wanted to bring home its 450 troops. Singapore has reduced its contingent to 33, from 191; Moldova has trimmed its force to 12, from 42. On 3 November, Bulgaria's Defense Ministry said it would reduce its 483 troops to 430 next month.

## Missing Missile Systems

On 5 November, US intelligence agencies tripled their estimate of shoulder-fired, surface-to-air missile systems believed to be at large worldwide after determining that at least 4,000 of the weapons from Iraq's pre-war arsenals cannot be accounted for. Officials said they did not know whether the missiles from Iraq remain there or have been smuggled into other countries. It was unclear whether Iraqi military or intelligence personnel removed the missile systems during the initial invasion of Iraq or whether they disappeared from Iraqi warehouses after major combat ended.

In recent months, intelligence and law enforcement agencies have repeatedly warned that al-Qaeda intends to use them to shoot down planes. In 2002, attackers who launched two small, Russian-made SA-7 missiles almost hit an Israeli airliner taking off from Mombasa, Kenya.

According to US officials, the new estimate of a larger number of the missile systems was discussed at a classified Defense Intelligence Agency conference in Alabama. They declined to discuss the methodology by which the new esti-

mate was reached, saying it is classified.

US intelligence analysts have said in the past that during Saddam Hussein's rule, Iraq stockpiled at least 5,000 of these missile systems, and fewer than one-third had been recovered. Secretary of State Colin Powell said last fall that "no threat is more serious to aviation" than the shoulder-fired missiles, which can be bought on the black market for as little as \$5,000. According to a US State Department estimate, more than 40 aircraft have been hit by shoulder-fired surface-to-air missiles since the 1970s, causing at least 24 crashes and more than 600 deaths worldwide. In Iraq, the missiles have been used in more than a dozen attacks on US planes and helicopters.

Sources: *New York Times News Service*, 6 November 2004; *Reuters*, 3 November 2004; *International Herald Tribune*, 3 November 2004; *The Guardian*, 1 November 2004; *The Independent*, 29 October 2004; *BBC Radio*, 29 October 2004; *Reuters*, 11 October 2004; <http://www.iaea.org>.

## Missiles, Defense and Missile Defense

### US DEFENSE COMPANIES REAP "HEALTHY" PROFITS

Many US defense companies are reporting "healthy" profits for the third quarter, due in part to the ongoing wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and record federal defense spending. The four top defense contractors in the US - Lockheed-Martin, Boeing, Northrop-Grumman, and Raytheon - are doing quite nicely, thank you, selling missiles, aircraft, munitions, ships, communications systems, and other war-making products to the US military. Northrop, the third-largest defense company, reported a net income of \$278 million, up 51%. At Boeing, revenue was up 8% to \$13.2 billion, while Northrop sales increased 11% to \$7.4 billion. Lockheed Martin Corp. reported a 41% jump in third-quarter profits.

But it isn't just the big boys of defense rolling in the dough. Standard & Poor's reported in July that "second-tier" companies were reaping many benefits from continued military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan, replenishing forces with Humvees, munitions, bombs, and other items left behind in the desert sands. Alliant Techsystems (ATK), for example, has seen a windfall from the countless rounds of ammo used up daily in operations overseas; ATK's income is up 31% over last year.

With federal defense spending at an all-time high of \$400+ billion annually, plus about \$100 billion for the Iraq war through September, not to mention the proposed \$70 billion in supplements next year for Iraq and Afghanistan, the defense companies see a positively rosy future in wartime spending.

As Paul McNulty, an investment manager at Setanta Asset Management, told the London Times in October, "Unfortunately, it all depends on the question, how dangerous is the world we live in? The more strife there is, the more profits these firms generate."

Sources: *Los Angeles Times*, 28 October 2004; *Financial Times*, 25 October 2004; *Los Angeles Daily News*, 28 October 2004.

### INTERNATIONAL MISSILE TESTS

On 3 November, India tested a Prithvi-III missile, a modified version of the short-range surface-to-surface missile that can carry a nuclear or conventional warhead. According to an Indian Defense Ministry spokesman, the missile had a range of 300 kilometers (180 miles), the longest range of this missile to date. As a precautionary measure, some 1,500 people from four villages near the test site were evacuated before the test. In Pakistan, officials said they had been informed in advance about the missile test.

On 3 November, India tested its Brahmos supersonic cruise missile with a range of 290 kilometers (180 miles). India and Russia jointly developed the Brahmos missile, which can carry up to a 660-pound conventional warhead.

India again tested a nuclear-capable missile on 7 November. The Dhanush missile was launched from the INS Subhadra, an Indian Navy ship, in the Bay of Bengal. With a range of 156 miles, the missile can carry a payload of up to 1,100 pounds. The Dhanush is a naval variant of the Prithvi missile. In addition to the short-range ballistic Prithvi, India's missile arsenal includes the medium-range Agni, the anti-tank Nag and the supersonic Brahmos.

On 12 October, Pakistan successfully tested a Hatf-V missile of the Ghauri series, a medium-range ballistic missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead, the fourth test in a series of tests on the missile system. The Hatf-V missile currently has a maximum range of 1,500 kilometers (932 miles). The missile was last tested on 4 June of this year. According to a statement issued by the Pakistani army, the country's neighbors, including India, were informed in advance of the tests.

On 20 October, Iran said it test fired a more accurate version of its surface-to-surface, long-range Shahab-III missile. According to Defense Minister Ali Shamkhani, "Iran test fired a more accurate version of the Shahab-3 in the presence of observers." He said the aim was to test "the destructive capacity and the accuracy of hitting the target of the new version of Shihab III."

Meanwhile, Russia tested a submarine-launched Bulava intercontinental ballistic missile on 20 October 2004. The Russian Pacific Fleet again test-fired the Bulava ballistic missile from a submerged submarine on 2 November. However, this test was the first conducted by Russia's Pacific Fleet in 2004. Previous tests were conducted by the Northern Fleet. The Bulava is expected to arm a new generation of Russian submarines as well as the existing Typhoon-type submarines.

Sources: AP Asia, 7 November 2004; Indo-Asian News Service, 4 November 2004; AP, 3 November 2004; Angola Press, 3 November 2004; Kyodo News Agency, 20 October 2004; UPI, 20 October 2004; Interfax, 20 October 2004; Bloomberg, 12 October 2004.

## Nuclear Energy and Waste

### CONGRESS RECLASSIFIES HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE

On 8 October 2004 Congress added Section 3116 to the 2005 Defense Authorization funding bill, which reclassifies high-level nuclear waste as "waste incidental to reprocessing." This reclassification will allow the US Department of Energy (DoE) to evade waste disposal responsibilities under the 1982 Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA).

The legislation applies only to high-level waste at South Carolina's Savannah River Site. Idaho and Washington state residents are relieved that the legislation does not reclassify the waste in their states where 10 tanks and 177 tanks, respectively, of waste await proper disposal. Yet, without question, Section 3116 sets a disastrous precedent for future waste disposal efforts.

Since its passage in 1982 some lawmakers have argued that cleanup standards under the NWPA are unnecessarily stringent and would cost taxpayers too much. With the looming passage of the 2005 Defense Authorization funding bill, which includes section 3116, the NWPA cleanup standards will be dropped in favor of less expensive and more environmentally hazardous disposal rules.

Sources: Snake River Alliance, 8 October 2004; TheState.com, 8 October 2004.

### JAPAN MOVES TOWARDS REPROCESSING SPENT FUEL

On 22 October 2004 the Japanese Atomic Energy Commission issued a revised long-term national nuclear energy policy. One of the most profound adjustments is the country's move towards reprocessing spent fuel.

Japan has 52 nuclear reactors run by 10 private companies that generate over 45,000 megawatts of electricity, which makes the country third only to the US and France as the largest producers of nuclear power in the world. Nuclear power accounts for nearly a third of the nation's electric power.

Japanese officials argue that reprocessing spent nuclear fuel for use in reactors will increase the country's energy independence and will guarantee a future for the nation's nuclear energy industry. Japan currently imports nearly all its coal and crude oil.

Opponents of spent fuel reprocessing cite the high financial costs and the destabilizing regional affects associated with the policy. Over a 60 year period it is estimated that reprocessing will cost \$402 billion, while burial will cost between \$281 and \$361 billion. In addition, opponents argue that spent fuel reprocessing will require the construction of a new generation of fast-breeder reactors as the country currently does not possess reactors capable of using reprocessed fuel. More importantly, opponents argue reprocessing spent fuel will provoke Japan's neighbors to pursue advanced nuclear programs of their own.

Sources: Reuters, 30 September 2004; AFX, 22 October 2004.

### YUCCA MOUNTAIN EXACERBATES NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE CRISIS

Supporters of a nuclear waste repository in Nevada's Yucca Mountain were confronted with a stark reality on 20 October 2004 when the Environmental Working Group (EWG) released the report X Marks the Spot. The EWG report contends that the US is prolonging its radioactive waste problems and that Yucca Mountain is really just a disguised expansion of the nation's nuclear industry.

The report finds that since the 2002 Senate vote that approved the repository in Nevada, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has extended the operating contracts of 26 nuclear reactors around the country. In relicensing these 26 reactors the NRC is guaranteeing that 9,000 metric tons of high-level waste will be added to the already burdened waste inventory of the US. There is no place for the 9,000 tons of high-level waste to be stored since Yucca Mountain, though not yet opened, will be at maximum capacity when it does open. The only choice for the NRC is to let the waste accumulate onsite at each of the 26 reactors.

A massive public relations campaign waged by the Department of Energy (DoE) and the nuclear power industry implied that Yucca Mountain would rid their communities of waste problems. Communities adjacent to sites where radioactive waste has already accumulated feel they have been deceived and wrongfully endangered.

To view the complete report visit:  
[http://www.ewg.org/reports/NuclearWaste/exec\\_summ.php](http://www.ewg.org/reports/NuclearWaste/exec_summ.php)

Sources: *Environmental Media Services*, 20 October 2004.

## **WASHINGTON STATE INITIATIVE BLOCKS NUCLEAR WASTE DUMPING FOR NOW**

By a more than a 2-to-1 margin on 2 November, Washington state voters passed Initiative 297, which blocks the US Department of Energy (DoE) from sending more nuclear waste to the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in the southern part of the state until current waste at the former nuclear weapons facility is fully cleaned up. The measure is scheduled to take effect in 30 days.

Supporters called the initiative a no-brainer: don't add more waste until the existing waste is cleaned up. Meanwhile, opponents fear that barring waste shipments to Hanford could backfire if other states take similar steps to ban Hanford waste. In addition, opponents have said the initiative is likely to end up in court because they believe it is illegal on several fronts: It pre-empts the federal government's nuclear waste and interstate commerce policies, imposes a tax on the federal government and addresses more than one issue, which would violate the state constitution. Opponents argue the initiative threatens \$2 billion in federal money earmarked for Hanford cleanup, and they have vowed to challenge the initiative in court.

DoE officials have said the site's most dangerous waste will be shipped out-of-state. Of the 405 million curies of radioactivity at Hanford, about 374 million curies will be sent to other states for long-term disposal. Hanford already is home to 53 million gallons of highly radioactive liquid, sludge and saltcake stored in 177 underground tanks. The DoE aims to bury much of that waste at the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository in Nevada. Another 75,000 55-gallon drums of transuranic, radioactive and hazardous waste also are buried at Hanford.

In 2003, Washington state filed a law suit to block waste shipments from entering the state, fearing Hanford would become a radioactive waste dump. The DoE voluntarily suspended the shipments after the lawsuit was filed, but the case remains in US District Court.

Source: *KOMO 4 News*, 03 Nov 2004.

## **US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION TO JOIN SEARCH FOR MISSING NUCLEAR FUEL RODS**

The US National Regulatory Commission (NRC) is sending a team of investigators to join the search for nuclear fuel rods that officials at the Humboldt Bay Power Plant can't find. The nuclear fuel rods have been unaccounted for since August when the plant's operator, Pacific Gas and Electric, began an inventory of a pool that is used to store spent nuclear rods. NRC officials believe that the rods are still in the pool or are simply unaccounted for after being sent to the facility used to store spent fuel rods. Since August, Pacific Gas and Electric crews have been using remote cameras to search less accessible areas of the pool, but to no avail.

Source: *Eureka Times-Standard*, 28 October 2004.

## **SWITZERLAND INCREASES DISTRIBUTION OF TABLETS TO GUARD AGAINST NUCLEAR RADIATION**

Swiss authorities announced on 29 October that some 1.2 million people living within 20 kilometers of the country's five nuclear power plants, instead of the previous five kilometer radius, will receive potassium iodide tablets to guard against radioactive contamination after a nuclear accident. Local residents will also receive two of the six-tablet boxes instead of one to allow them to help out family, friends and passers-by in an emergency. About 90,000 companies, hospitals and public offices in the area will also receive free stocks over the next two months. Potassium iodide helps to stop the thyroid gland from absorbing radioactive iodine fallout.

Source: *Daily Times*; 30 October 2004.

## **Nuclear Insanity**

## **INDIAN NUCLEAR OPTION HELPED REMOVE POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS STRATEGIC AMBIGUITIES IN THE REGION**

Speaking to military commanders in the country's capital, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said that "the exercise of the nuclear option by India helped remove potentially dangerous strategic ambiguities in the region."

In May 1988, India detonated a range of nuclear weapons including a thermonuclear bomb and then imposed a unilat-

eral moratorium on further testing. The exercise prompted Pakistan to carry out tit-for-tat atomic tests the same month. Since 1947, India has fought three wars with Pakistan, but the country insists that its acquisition of nuclear weapons was aimed at thwarting the military ambitions of larger Asian neighbors.

During the brain-storming session, Prime Minister Singh urged his top military commanders to study the US-led war on Iraq, but said the country's military must be practical while giving shape to a new combat doctrine. In an obvious reference to Iraq, Singh stated, "Technology and strategy are mutually interactive. Our military doctrine must have the inherent flexibility to imbibe technological changes and adapt them to our strategic needs (but) in this process availability of resources has to act as a reality check." Currently, the country has a military budget of some \$14 billion.

Singh said the Iraq conflict will also force other countries to rethink their military strategies. He stated, "Recent events have put an enormous strain on the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law and on the fundamental ethic of consensual multilateralism as the fountainhead of international legitimacy to regulate and constrain the use of force in world affairs."

Source: AFX, 26 October 2004.

## **NUCLEAR REACTOR SHUT-DOWN IN RUSSIA CAUSES FRENZY**

Although officials insisted there had been no radiation leakage from reactor No. 2 at the Balakovo nuclear power plant in the Saratov region in southern Russia, wide-spread panic gripped the citizens of the region when the reactor shut down because of a turbine malfunction on 4 November. After the shut-down, rumors immediately spread that there had been a major accident. Hundreds of residents fled homes near the reactor, dozens of businesses temporarily shut down and pharmacy's sold out of iodine. Anna Vinogradova, head of the Balakovo's Department of Environment Protection, stated, "The whole city lost their heads. All the telephone lines were busy. People were telling each other to drink vodka, take iodine and no matter what not to use public water."

The former Soviet Union was the site of the world's worst nuclear accident when a reactor at the Chernobyl atomic plant in Ukraine exploded in April 1986. Families of station workers in the nearby company town were not informed about the accident for days, so they couldn't take any precautions. Today the region where the fallout settled has high rates of thyroid cancer, an illness that can be caused by exposure to radiation.

Sergei Kirivenko, President Vladimir Putin's envoy to the region, made a quick visit on 5 November to try to calm fears. He inspected all four reactors at the plant, including reactor No. 2. On Russian state television, Kirivenko stated, "I am confident that there is no threat to people in Balakovo, the Saratov region and moreover in neighboring regions." On 6 November, the reactor was restarted at 3:40 am and was running normally.

Chernobyl was closed in 2000. Russia has 10 nuclear power plants with a total of 30 nuclear reactors.

Source: AP, 6 November 2004.

## **FRENCH ANTI-NUCLEAR PROTESTER RUN OVER BY TRAIN**

On 7 November, Sébastien Briard, an anti-nuclear protester died in northeastern France after being run over by a train carrying nuclear waste from France to Germany. The 21-year-old man, who had chained himself to the railway near the city of Nancy, lost a leg after he was crushed by the train and died despite receiving emergency treatment at the scene. French authorities said the accident happened in the early afternoon in the town of Avricourt after a group of eight people gathered near the main Paris to Strasbourg line, on which the nuclear transport train was traveling.

Earlier, the train, which was carrying treated nuclear waste from the French nuclear reprocessing plant at La Hague to Gorleben in northern Germany, was delayed for two hours near Nancy as police removed two protestors who had also chained themselves to the railway lines.

A spokesman from French nuclear energy firm COGEMA, which manages La Hague nuclear plant said the incident was "a tragedy" and that officials organizing the convoy had been "extremely shocked". The German Green Party, which forms part of the German government, said it was stunned by the death of the demonstrator. A spokesman for the party stated, "We deeply regret this tragic death," and added that he expected a thorough investigation be carried out into the incident.

A member of protest group Nuclear Out, Gilbert Poirot, said about a dozen protesters had been involved, all of them French nationals.

On 5 November, at least 4,500 anti-nuclear protestors gathered in northern Germany to protest the imminent arrival of the shipment. After demonstrating in Danneberg market square, protestors gathered at the railway station and also temporarily blocked the tracks to be used by the train. Anti-nuclear and environmental campaigners say the shipments are dangerous and that the waste will contaminate the water table at Gorleben.

Despite the tragedy, the train later continued on its journey. Germany, which has no reprocessing facilities of its own, sends spent fuel rods to the La Hague plant before they are returned for storage.

Source: AP, 7 November 2004.

# Foundation Activities

## BROADCASTING PEACE: A CONVERSATION WITH WALTER CRONKITE

On 23 October, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation held its 21st Annual Evening for Peace. This year, the Foundation honored Walter Cronkite, selected by the American people in the mid 1990s as the most trusted man in America, with its 2004 Distinguished Peace Leadership Award. In a live interview with ABC news correspondent Sam Donaldson following the presentation of the Foundation's award, Cronkite argued that the US is far less secure today as a result of initiating the war against Iraq. He also said he believes the Bush administration's dangerous doctrine of preemptive war is a doctrine that is setting the wrong example for countries throughout the world. Cronkite added that the way to peace is through diplomacy and cooperation with international organizations such as the United Nations. As a solution to the Iraq War, Cronkite suggested convening high-ranking retired US military leaders who have opposed the war and asking them to design a plan to bring US soldiers home in six months. Cronkite further suggested that the returning soldiers should be greeted as heroes on the main street in every US city and that the government provide a "GI Bill" for their education and to get them back on their feet in business.

Donaldson asked Cronkite how he would convince the American people that we should obey the rule of international law. Cronkite responded, "It's going to require a lot of education. We've got to improve our education system to the degree that we have a literate society to which you can appeal with a reasonable argument, rather than the passion of the moment or the passion of the past." Cronkite continued, "We have to have a revolutionary change. Thomas Jefferson, Old Tom, once said that 'The nation that expects to be ignorant and free, expects what never can and never will be.' We are on the precipice of being so ignorant that we can not function well as a democracy."

The Distinguished Peace Leadership Award was presented to the former CBS Nightly News anchor for his "uncompromising integrity" in reporting the news to the American people and for his commitment to building a more peaceful world. David Krieger, president of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, stated, "The principal function of a journalist is to bring the truth to the people so that power will not be abused. That requires hard work and integrity, and it is what has characterized Walter Cronkite throughout his distinguished career. Mr. Cronkite has served democracy well, and set a high standard for all journalists to follow."

Some of the previous recipients of the Foundation's Distinguished Peace Leadership Award include Archbishop Desmond Tutu, The Dalai Lama, Jacques Cousteau, King Hussein of Jordan and Jody Williams.

Visit <http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/programs/public-events/evening-for-peace/2004/21st-evening.htm> to watch video clips of the live interview with Cronkite and Donaldson as well as tributes to Cronkite from Ted Koppel, Tom Brokaw and Diane Sawyer.

## Resources

### UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT STAMP

On 15 October, the United Nations launched a stamp aimed at raising awareness regarding the relationship between disarmament and development. The UN has reported on the negative impact of the proliferation of weapons and weapon related violence on the health and safety of civilians - particularly children - around the world. In addition, the resources spent on weapons - currently costing the world nearly \$1 trillion annually - could alternatively be used to help meet development goals including the provision of clean water, basic education, sufficient food and shelter for everyone in the world.

To order your Disarmament Stamps, visit: <http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA/additional/disarmament/index2.html>

### AS TIME GOES BY: MAKING THE CASE FOR LOVE IN A TIME OF FEAR

The Atomic Mirror released their annual assessment of the nuclear world and how close nations are to achieving a nuclear-free world. As Time Goes By is the 2004 assessment released on United Nations Day, 24 October 2004. The assessment was distributed to delegates at the UN General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security. To read the pdf report visit [http://www.atomicmirror.org/reports/atgb\\_04.pdf](http://www.atomicmirror.org/reports/atgb_04.pdf)

## **COMMITTEE EXAMINING RADIATION RISKS OF INTERNAL EMITTERS REPORT PUBLISHED**

On 20 October 2004 the Report of the Committee Examining Radiation Risks of Internal Emitters (CERRIE) was published. CERRIE was set up by the UK Government in 2001 to examine concerns about the health risks of intakes of radioactive matter. The Report contains new information and insights about the effects of internal radiation and can be downloaded as a pdf on the CERRIE website at <http://www.cerrie.org>. You may also request a hard copy be sent to your mailing address by sending an email to [secretariat@cerrie.org](mailto:secretariat@cerrie.org).

### ***URANIUM IN THE WIND BY ROSS WILCOCK***

Uranium in the Wind examines the use of depleted uranium (DU) munitions in combat. During the 1991 Gulf War, about 900 tons of DU munitions were used. During the 2003-04 invasion of Iraq over 200 tons of DU munitions have been used. Learn more about DU by ordering a copy of Uranium in the Wind from Pandora Press. [www.pandorapress.com](http://www.pandorapress.com)

### **MISSILE DEFENSE ALL OVER AGAIN**

Michelle Ciarrocca from Foreign Policy in Focus has published Missile Defense All Over Again, an analysis of the US National Missile Defense (NMD) program. Conclusions find that, despite a large increase in NMD funding, the existing system remains as inoperable as previous systems. Additionally, a NMD program combined with antagonistic US nuclear weapons policies might stop progress in global arms reductions. To read the full report visit

<http://www.fpif.org/briefs/vol9/v9n04missdef.html>

### **BASIC OCTOBER REPORT**

The British American Security Information Council (BASIC) has released their October Report, which includes a detailed examination of the recent transatlantic plutonium conversion project between the US and France, US Navy disaster preparedness, NATO, and small arms proliferation. To read the complete pdf report visit

<http://www.basicint.org/pubs/BReports/BR86.pdf>

### **Quotable**

*"We have adopted the incredible decision of preemption. With this system of preemption and the unilateral nature of it as practiced by the administration, we have established a foreign policy which is unsustainable in a world that we hope will be governed by peace rather than by war. As a consequence, we are on a very dangerous course not only for the US, but for civilization."*

-Walter Cronkite

During an interview with Sam Donaldson at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's 21st Evening for Peace.  
23 October 2004

*"In my view, we have come to a fork in the road. Either there must be a demonstrated commitment to move toward nuclear disarmament, or we should resign ourselves to the fact that other countries will pursue a more dangerous parity through proliferation."*

- Mohamed ElBaradei

During a speech at the Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University  
4 November 2004

*"Peace and international law are closely linked to each other: Law favors peace. Democratic governments know well that the use of force against terrorists cannot justify a renunciation of the principles of the rule of law."*

-Pope John Paul II

From a statement marking the 2004 International Day of Peace

*"It's easy to blame the poor for being poor. It's easy to believe that the world is being caught up in an escalating spiral of terrorism and war. That's what allows George Bush to say, 'You're either with us or with the terrorists.' But that's a spurious choice. Terrorism is only the privatization of war. Terrorists are the free marketers of war. They believe that the legitimate use of violence is not the sole prerogative of the state."*

-Arundhati Roy

From her lecture upon receiving the 2004 Sydney Peace Prize  
2 November 2004

*"We're an empire now, and when we act, we create our own reality. And while you're studying that reality - judiciously, as you will - we'll act again, creating other new realities, which you can study too, and that's how things will sort out. We're history's actors ... and you, all of you, will be left to study what we do."*

-Senior Aide to President Bush

Taken from a New York Times Magazine article by Ron Suskind.

17 October 2004

*"Both Bush and Kerry are campaigning on the myth that war is ennobling - a test of manhood and leadership. That is a lie. It is neither ennobling nor a test of manhood. It is a test of physical courage. I have a great deal of respect for those who have that kind of courage. But ultimately, societies are led forward by those who exhibit moral courage, which is very rare on a battlefield. That kind of courage exiles you from the crowd. Those that exhibit it are lonely figures. I think we've confused physical and moral courage. They're very different."*

-Veteran New York Times foreign correspondent Chris Hedges

During an interview regarding his book "War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning."

10 October 2004

*"Soon after September 11th, Mr. Bush issued a secret presidential order setting up covert teams of commandos to scour the globe to capture, interrogate and kill terrorists. Such teams were authorized to operate outside the law. Mr. Bush later issued an order declaring that any captured al-Qaeda or Taliban fighters would not be deemed prisoners of war covered by the Geneva Conventions, and that in the war on terror he had the right to suspend the conventions whenever he wished."*

-The Economist

From a review of Seymour Hersh's latest investigative work entitled "Chain of Command: The Road from 9/11 to Abu Ghraib."

23 October 2004

*"While militant Islam is the most immediate and obvious challenge to international order, nuclear proliferation is the most long-range and insidious threat to global survival. Heretofore nuclear weapons have spread relatively slowly and remained in the possession of countries with everything to lose and nothing to gain from assaulting the international order. But the international system is now confronted by the imminent spread of nuclear weapons into the hands of two countries with a worrisome agenda: the odd, isolated regime in North Korea, which is responsible for multiple assassinations and kidnappings and meets every definition of a rogue regime; and Iran, whose current regime started by holding American diplomats as hostages and has since supported a variety of terrorist groups in the Middle East and continues to declare America its principal enemy."*

-Henry Kissinger

From an editorial that appeared in Newsweek

8 November 2004

*"The arc of history is long, but it bends toward justice."*

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

*"The war was based on two lies. The first was we were in danger of weapons of mass destruction and the second was that Iraq was somehow to blame for September 11. It has been a tragedy for all the families that have lost members. As many as 100,000 people have died, half of them women and children. If that is not a war crime, what is?"*

-Stephen Hawking, Physicist

Speaking at an anti-war demonstration in London's Trafalgar Square timed to coincide with the US election

2 November 2004

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