

THE SUNflower

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So, in the development of the universe, of all that has preceded us in time and on this planet, the Nuclear Age is infinitesimally tiny, and yet it is incredibly important for it is the funnel through which we must pass to move into the future. For the first time in history, a species (*homo sapiens*) has developed technology capable of destroying itself and most of life on the planet.

We need this perspective of our place in time and geological history to have a sense of how extraordinarily rare and precious we are.

For full text, go to http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2003/11/25_krieger_challenge-peace.htm

2003 NAGASAKI APPEAL

2ND NAGASAKI GLOBAL CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

November 24, 2003

In the first years of the 21st century the prospects of nuclear weapons proliferation and use have dramatically increased. As the last city to suffer a nuclear attack, Nagasaki is committed to reversing this dangerous trend and making progress towards a nuclear weapons-free world.

The 21st century began with a chain reaction of violence and retaliation. In September 2001 terrorist attacks took place in the United States. The Afghan war followed, and then the Iraq War began in March 2003 on the pretext that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction. Meanwhile, the Bush Administration has reviewed its nuclear posture and promoted new policies for nuclear weapons use. Also, North Korea is conducting brinkmanship diplomacy using nuclear weapons development as a lever. We find that the intentions of various countries to give a new role to nuclear weapons will considerably hinder any progress towards their elimination.

In this context, we global citizens have gathered again in the A-bombed city of Nagasaki three years after the 1st Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, in order to listen to the heartfelt pleas of Hibakusha [nuclear bomb survivors] and to be inspired by the enduring passion of the Nagasaki citizens' commitment to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

For full text, go to http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2003/11/24_2003-nagasaki-appeal.htm

Perspective

RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE OF PEACE

by David Krieger, November 25, 2003

The Nuclear Age began only 58 years ago, a mere nanosecond in geological time. Scientists tell us that the universe began 15 billion years ago, in the immensely distant past. We can conceive of the life of the universe as a 15,000 page book, with each page representing a million years. In this book, the "Big Bang" would occur on page one and then thousands of pages would represent the expansion of the universe and the creation of stars. The Earth would have been formed around page 10,500. The beginning of life on Earth, the first single-celled creatures, would have occurred on about page 11,000. And then over the next 4,000 pages, you could read about life developing. Only three pages from the end of this 15,000 page book would our human ancestors appear. It would not be until the last word on the last page of the book that human civilizations would appear. The Nuclear Age would fall in the period – the punctuation mark – of the last sentence of the last page of the history of the universe.

COLD WAR COMEBACK? THE NUCLEAR THREAT FROM WITHIN

by Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher, November 18, 2003

The Nuclear Posture Review actively sought to find new uses for nuclear weapons, emphasized pre-emptive military action and shortened the timeline to restart nuclear tests in Nevada. The Bush administration has been actively pursuing new nuclear weapons that are explicitly for use on the battlefield. These tactical weapons — the powerful “bunker buster” Robust Nuclear Earth Penetrator and “mini-nukes” less than 5 kilotons — turn the notion of strategic deterrence on its head and create a world in which nuclear weapons are seen as legitimate offensive alternatives.

Neither of these weapons [were] asked for by the Pentagon. They were not driven by a real threat. They will not make the United States any safer. Instead, the administration’s actions are having the opposite effect by erasing the taboo on the use of nuclear weapons. Russia has already indicated that it will develop new “tactical” weapons in response, and no one doubts our enemies will follow suit.

This is a major departure from where we were as a country only a few years ago and deserves serious debate. Do we want a world in which the United States is spurring a new global arms race with our own development of a new generation of nuclear weapons? Or do we want a world in which the United States, confident in the proven deterrence of our existing nuclear stockpile and the success of our conventional forces in every conflict since the Cold War, is able to lead the world in preventing the spread of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons?

For full text go to http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2003/11/18_tauscher_cold-war.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 and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, two 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 third month and there are 40 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.

SPEAK OUT AGAINST ENOLA GAY DISPLAY AT DULLES AIRPORT, PART II

The Smithsonian Institution has maintained its plans to open on 13 December 2003, the exhibit of the Enola Gay, the US B-29 bomber that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. The exhibit is going ahead despite protests from scholars, writers, and activists who request the exhibit include information about the number of people killed by the atomic bomb dropped by the Enola Gay. According to Peter Kuznick, historian at American University and director of the Nuclear Studies Institute, “We want to encourage a balanced discussion of what happened in 1945 and the potential ramifications of what happened in the past for policy today. We don’t want a whitewashed exhibition. That kind of display only helps to legitimize the past use of nuclear weapons and, I fear, lends support for lowering the threshold for the use of nuclear weapons now.” Read and sign the petition that protests the exhibit of the Enola Gay at:

<http://www.enola-gay.org/feedback.php>

THE CAMPAIGN TO MAKE DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR PLANT SAFER

Santa Barbara residents reside just 90 miles downwind of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant where the equivalent of thousands of megatons of lethal radioactive fallout are contained in the “spent” fuel assemblies. These “rods” are already jammed to capacity in their un-reinforced storage pools. As the nuclear power plant continues to operate, more waste is created that must soon be shipped out, through Santa Barbara, to the proposed repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

In order to continue production, Pacific Gas & Electric the owners of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant are currently in the process of applying for a "temporary" license from The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to expand onsite storage. Not surprisingly, the NRC has denied public hearings on safety, as well as environmental and security impacts on our fragile and earthquake prone coastal zone. If the license is granted, radioactive waste will be added to the facility and ultimately pose greater risk to surrounding and downwind communities like Santa Barbara.

The San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace is taking a leading role in the creation of a nationwide alliance for developing defenses at nuclear power plants. It is doing so by filing an appeal in Federal Court requesting careful examination of security issues before licensing a new spent fuel storage facility. This case has the potential for setting important precedents for all US nuclear facilities.

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation among many other organizations have joined the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility to urge the public to support this precedent-setting appeal.

For more information on donating to this cause or joining the Alliance please go to the Mothers For Peace website at www.mothersforpeace.org.

Tax-deductible donations in form of a check can be sent to the San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace, PO 165, Pismo Beach, CA 93448, by credit card at www.mothersforpeace.org.

10 DECEMBER HUMAN RIGHTS DAY OBSERVANCE

On 10 December 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The declaration recognized the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all people in all nations.

To commemorate Human Rights Day, read the following articles and pass the message onto your friends and family.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
<http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>.

The Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, a resolution approved by the General Assembly on 12 November 1984, which expressed "the will and the aspirations of all peoples to eradicate war from the life of mankind and, above all, to avert a world-wide nuclear catastrophe." For the full text of the resolution, go to <http://193.194.138.190/html/menu3/b/73.htm>.

The Human Right to Peace, a proposed additional human right by the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 1997.

For full text of the Declaration, go to :
<http://www.unesco.org/general/eng/whatsnew/decl.eng.html>.

The 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Shirin Ebadi, an Iranian campaigner for human rights awarded for her work in promoting the rights of women and children. For Shirin Ebadi's biography, go to:
<http://www.nobel.se/peace/laureates/2003/ebadi-bio.html>.

Proliferation

PYONGYANG AGREES TO SIX-WAY TALKS IN FACE OF REACTOR SHUT-DOWNS

On 25 November 2003, North Korea and the US agreed to converge their positions on resolving the current nuclear impasse in another round of six-way talks scheduled for 17-19 December 2003.

Since the beginning of the impasse between Pyongyang and Washington, North Korea has consistently maintained its willingness to dismantle its nuclear weapons program in exchange for a formal non-aggression treaty with the US. On 25 October, North Korea signaled that it agreed "in principle" to consider a written security guarantee offered by Washington in early October. Reiterating its recent remarks, Pyongyang said on 16 November that it was "ready to abandon in practice its nuclear program" if the US "hostile policy is fundamentally dropped and its threat to us removed in practice."

A copy of a written security assurance is due to be delivered to Pyongyang by a Chinese envoy before the six-way talks. Under the agreement, North Korea would renounce its nuclear weapons programs and the US, China, Russia, Japan and South Korea would agree to declare their willingness to sign a written security assurance.

In a congressional report, the CIA confirmed that North Korea has produced "one or two simple fission-type nuclear weapons," and mastered the technology in converting nuclear fuel to manufacture nuclear bombs without the need for testing. The CIA also reported that Pyongyang may have exaggerated its nuclear capabilities, as US intelligence is "not certain if there is a uranium enrichment plant" in North Korea. The report states that Pyongyang has obtained components, but may lack the facilities to house the centrifuges required for the uranium enrichment process. Officials, however, caution that it is impossible to confirm this information since Pyongyang's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Experts believe that North Korea had reached a deal with Pakistan to exchange North Korean missile technology for Pakistani nuclear aid. Pakistan General Pervez Musharraf has since denied such allegations during a recent visit to South Korea.

Earlier in November, President Bush succeeded in persuading the Korean Energy Development Organization to sus-

pend its \$6.4 billion project to construct two nuclear reactors in North Korea. This announcement would effectively end the 1994 Agreed Framework reached between the Clinton administration and North Korea. The accord provided for Pyongyang to receive the technology to build two nuclear power plants and fuel aid in exchange for the cessation of their nuclear weapons activities. In response, North Korea has accused the US of deliberately breaching the nuclear agreement and is demanding compensation.

On a separate note, North Korea has condemned South Korea's plans to deploy US manufactured missiles as part of a US plot to trigger a "nuclear holocaust" on the peninsula. South Korea said it would start deploying the Army Tactical Missile System Block 1A missiles in December near the border with the north. With a range of 186 miles, the missiles can reach Pyongyang and North Korea's nuclear complex in Yongbon – where 8,000 fuel rods are reportedly being converted to build nuclear weapons.

Sources: BBC News, 18 and 29 November 2003; Global Security Newswire, 10 and 26 November 2003; Agence France-Presse, 24 November 2003; New York Times, 5, 9, 14 and 17 November 2003; Associated Press, 5 November 2003; USA Today, 5 November 2003.

IAEA RESOLUTION PASSED, IRANIAN DEFIANCE REMAINS

On 26 November 2003, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) passed a resolution condemning Iran for their 18 year cover up of an advanced nuclear program but stopped short of recommending sanctions. IAEA Director General Mohammed ElBaradei said he was pleased with the resolution, but added, "The board is sending a very serious and ominous message that failures in the future will not be tolerated and that the board will use all options available to it to deal with these failures."

While praising Tehran's "active cooperation and openness," the IAEA governing board strongly deplored Iran's involvement in uranium enrichment and plutonium reprocessing activities, both of which can result in a nuclear weapons program.

The resolution was an agreement reached between the US and European allies (Britain, France and Germany). Hoping that the IAEA board would find Iran in non-compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Washington rejected the European draft as "too weak" and pushed for immediate action by the United Nations Security Council. The European allies, who persuaded Iran to submit to stricter inspections last month, sought a milder resolution, focusing instead on increased co-operation between Tehran and the IAEA.

The final agreement established a fast track procedure to take any further violations by Iran to the UN Security Council. The resolution urged Iran to "adhere strictly to its obligations" and to the IAEA "in both the letter and spirit" of nuclear non-proliferation regulations. It also called on Iran "to undertake and

complete the taking of all necessary corrective measures on an urgent basis."

An IAEA report released on 11 November revealed that Tehran had been developing a uranium centrifuge program for 18 years and a laser enrichment program for 12 years. While confirming that traces of uranium and plutonium had been discovered in Iran's nuclear facilities, the report concluded that, "to date there is no evidence that the previous undeclared nuclear materials and activities... were related to a nuclear weapons program."

John Bolton, US Under-Secretary of Arms Control and International Security responded by saying that this statement was "hard to believe," and the "long litany of serious violations of Iran's commitments bolstered the US assertion that Iran had a 'massive and covert' weapons program."

Iranian ambassador to the IAEA, Ali Akbar Saleh, dismissed the Iranian breaches to its nuclear obligations as "insignificant," as the amount of uranium and plutonium found is far less than needed for the building of nuclear weapons. While acknowledging that some of its enrichment equipment had traces of weapons enriched uranium, Tehran insists that these traces were inadvertently imported on material it purchased from third parties.

The IAEA has identified Russia, China and Pakistan as suspects in transferring technology to Iran for its uranium enrichment programs, and disclosed countries and companies in Asia and Europe as Iran's source of enrichment equipment. Iran plans to build eight nuclear reactors, each of which will have a capacity of 1,000 megawatts. The building of its first reactor is currently taking place with Russian assistance in Bushehr. The Russians maintain that Iran's recent cooperation and willingness to allow unannounced inspections demonstrates that the construction of a nuclear power plant poses little threat to the world.

Although Iran announced suspension of its uranium enrichment program on 14 November, Hassan Rohani, Secretary General of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, told a news conference on 29 November that, "Our uranium enrichment program has been suspended voluntarily, temporarily, to build trust." He added, "But the issue of ending uranium enrichment is not in question and never has been nor will be."

Iran has yet to fulfill its intentions in signing the "Additional Protocol" to the Nuclear Safeguards Agreement, which allows unfettered access of its nuclear facilities to UN inspectors. Saleh stated Tehran's willingness to sign the agreement was generated by Iran's "cooperation with the Europeans" last month, and said it was a "package deal" in exchange for technical assistance to Iran's civilian nuclear programs.

Sources: Reuters, 29 November 2003; BBC News, 25, 26 and 27 November 2003; Washington Post, 12 and 24 November 2003; Global Security Newswire, 14 and 21 November 2003; Agence France-Presse, 13 and 21 November 2003; Associated Press, 20 November 2003; International Herald Tribune, 18 November 2003; The Economist, 14 November 2003; Financial Times, 13 November 2003; USA Today, 10 November 2003.

US TOUTS NPT COMPLIANCE WHILE FUNDING FOR NEW NUKES APPROVED

On 5 November 2003, US Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham was clear and definite in his statement of the Bush administration's support of Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treat (NPT) and its commitments under Article VI. In his speech, he catalogued concrete steps that the US and Russia have made under the NPT, including the signing of the Moscow Treaty, enabling steps towards the disposal of 700 tons of fissile material in excess of defense needs, and adhering to a 1997 agreement to shut-down 14 plutonium production reactors in the US and 10 reactors in Russia.

Abraham, however, did not comment on recent trends in the administration's nuclear policies, which contradict US obligations under the NPT. By passing the Defense Authorization and Energy and Water Appropriation bills in November 2003, Congress granted much of the funding sought by the administration to research, develop and test a new generation of nuclear weapons.

By approving the Defense Authorization Bill for fiscal year 2004, Congress voted to repeal a decade old ban on the research and development of "mini-nukes." On 18 November, Congress passed the 2004 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, allocating:

\$6 billion for Advance Concept studies towards the development of "mini-nukes;"

\$7.5 billion for the research of nuclear "bunker busters;"

\$11 million towards the construction of a Modern Pit Facility for plutonium pit production;

\$25 million towards "Enhanced Test Readiness," shortening nuclear test readiness from the current 24-36 months to 24 months;

\$34 million to improve the Nevada Test Site.

By assigning a new, more "usable" role for nuclear weapons, the Bush administration's "vertical proliferation" plans contravene US commitments to de-emphasize reliance on nuclear weapons as well as disregard pledges made under Article VI of the NPT to take steps towards nuclear disarmament. While the Bush administration demands that North Korea, Iran and other countries renounce their nuclear ambitions and submit to inspections in accordance with the NPT, the US neglects to engage in the process of transparent and irreversible reduction and elimination of its own arsenal.

The authorization of the bills confirms to the world that nuclear weapons constitute a central component of the US defense strategy, prompting other countries to redouble their own efforts to acquire nuclear arms and begin nuclear testing. On 24 November, First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Russian General Staff, Yuri Baluyevsky, described the Pentagon's plans to develop their nuclear arsenal as destabilizing, announcing Russia's plans to review its nuclear strategy and maintain its tactical nuclear weapon stockpile. Unless effective measures are enforced soon to curb the current administration, the US will be guilty of leading the world down the slippery slope of an emerging global nuclear arms race.

Sources: New York Times, 26 November 2003; Seattle Times, 19 November 2003; Carnegie Endowment Proliferation News, 24 November 2003.

Weapons of Mass Destruction

G8 NATIONS ARE FAILING TO SECURE WMD

Pledges of world's richest nations to secure nuclear, chemical and biological materials are falling "far short" of what is needed to "prevent terrorists from obtaining weapons of mass destruction," warned an international coalition of 21 security organizations.

Released on 18 November, "Global Partnership Update" was written by a consortium of research institutes in 16 countries, led by Washington based Center for Strategic and International Studies. The report concludes that more than a year after G8 leaders agreed to spend \$20 billion over 10 years against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, only a "tiny fraction" of funds have been released and only a small number of projects have started as a result.

Sam Nunn, former chairman of the US Senate Armed Services Committee stated, "There is a dangerous gap between the pace of progress and the scope and urgency of the threat." Nunn estimates that there are approximately 100 poorly protected research reactors spread across 40 countries which contain weapons-usable uranium, leaving the world "alarmingly vulnerable to catastrophic terrorism."

Nunn also accused the US and Russia of moving too slowly to stop terrorists from acquiring deadly ingredients to build nuclear weapons, stating that, "At the pace we're going, you're talking about 20 years" before nuclear facilities reach a safe and acceptable security level.

Sources: Financial Times, 19 November 2003; New York Times, 18 November 2003.

Nuclear Disarmament & Non Proliferation

RESULTS OF THE UN FIRST COMMITTEE VOTES ON THE NEW AGENDA COALITION RESOLUTIONS

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. Voting took place on 4 November 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 received 121 votes in favor, 6 in opposition and 38 abstentions.

US, UK and France voted against the resolution. While maintaining their commitment to the NPT, the three Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) and permanent Security Council members claimed that the NAC resolution went beyond the agreements of 1995 and 2000 and did not take into account progress made since 2000, including the Moscow Treaty.

Pakistan and India also voted against the resolution. They opposed the resolution's language expressing the "regional tensions and deteriorating security situation" in South Asia and its further calls on India and Pakistan to join the NPT, as reasons.

Israel was the sixth country to vote against the resolution, while Iran voted in favor of it. Germany, Japan and Australia all abstained from the resolution. North Korea also abstained, stating that it "did not fairly reflect the nuclear issues between the DPRK and the US."

China and most members of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) voted in favor of the resolution. China, however, expressed the view that "all Nuclear Weapon States should undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, which is essential to the realization of total nuclear disarmament." Canada was the only NATO member to vote in favor of the resolution.

The second resolution, "Reductions of Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons (NSNW)," specifically addresses the issue of tactical (sub-strategic or short range) nuclear weapons. The resolution received 118 votes in favor, 4 in opposition and 41 abstentions.

The US, UK, France and Russia voted against the resolution. Speaking on behalf of the UK and France, the US said the "three countries could not support the resolution because it fails to take into account efforts already under-way to address the concerns underlying the resolution."

Russia said it was compliant with commitments it made in reducing NSNW. It claimed the resolution was insufficiently precise and proposed "new and specific" commitments that went beyond agreements made in 1991-2 and 2000.

China, who did not vote, claimed that "both the concept and definition of 'non-strategic nuclear weapons' as mentioned in the resolution [were] unclear."

For further information on the voting results, go to http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2003/11/07_wang_un-agenda.htm

Sources: *The Acronym Institute, UN First Committee Report 2003; Reaching Critical Will, The First Committee Monitor 2003.*

ELBARADEI PROPOSES TIGHTER CONTROLS ON NUCLEAR MATERIALS

On 3 November 2003, IAEA Secretary General Mohammed ElBaradei called for international efforts to tighten the NPT and better control access to nuclear technology in order to reduce the threat of terrorism and prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

Referring to the "serious and immediate challenge by North Korea's withdrawal of the NPT," the "urgent need to determine to the full extent of Iran's nuclear program," and the "lingering question about Iraq's nuclear efforts and illegal trafficking in radioactive material," ElBaradei stated that recent events have revealed the increasing stress that the non-proliferation regime is currently under, highlighting the weaknesses of the NPT.

Under the umbrella of the treaty, Pyongyang legally developed its own nuclear fuel cycle and withdrew from the treaty when it officially declared itself in possession of nuclear weapons. With current fears that Iran could take the same steps, ElBaradei proposed plans that would make it more difficult for countries to disguise a weapons program as a source of energy for their country.

In his annual report to the IAEA General Assembly, ElBaradei said that the UN should consider putting all production of weapons usable material, such as Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU) and plutonium, around the world under international control to limit "the increasing threat" posed by countries and terrorists. ElBaradei's new framework would ensure that civilian nuclear programs remain "a source of hope and prosperity" while restricting the reprocessing of weapons-grade material "exclusively to facilities under multinational control."

ElBaradei also suggested the establishment of international nuclear waste repository centers so that only a few nations would provide centralized fuel waste services for all countries in possession of spent nuclear fuel. Moscow has already proposed a long-term repository to manage global nuclear fuel supply and waste in Western Siberia, encouraging nations to forgo expensive nuclear fuel cycle facilities. This \$20 billion arrangement could be seen as a template for the future of nuclear waste, helping to ease risks of the 200,000 tons of global nuclear buildup which expands by 10,000 tons per year.

As stated by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, "Many countries around the world think that having international centers could be beneficial... because they don't want to have to worry about the nuclear waste."

It is unclear how ElBaradei's proposal would affect Nuclear Weapon States and countries that have nuclear programs (such as Japan), but are not suspected of developing nuclear weapons.

The General Assembly is currently debating a draft resolution accepting ElBaradei's report.

ElBaradei's address coincided with US and Russia's plans to collaborate in returning weapons-grade material from vulnerable nuclear reactors throughout the former USSR back to Russia. Signed on 7 November, the agreement could be the first step toward a new multilateral strategy for preventing the global spread of nuclear technology and materials, and to keep them from falling into the hands of terrorists.

Sources: *Global Security Newswire*, 5 and 25 November 2003; *Christian Science Monitor*, 10 November 2003; *Reuters*, 6 November 2003; *UN Newswire*, 4 November 2003; *Associated Press*, 3 November 2003.

Missile Defense

JAPAN AND CANADA EDGE CLOSER IN JOINING US MISSILE DEFENSE PROJECT

Japan's Defense Ministry has revealed plans for the joint production of new interceptor missiles with the US and is ready to manufacture key parts of missiles for the US missile defense system within the next few years. This move will, however, require a review of a 1967 policy which includes a

ban of weapons exports to all countries, allowing only arms related exports in the form of technology. The Defense Ministry is awaiting approval to spend more than \$1 billion for Japan's participation in the US missile defense project.

Ottawa, which has been cooperating with the US for decades on their missile defense system, is debating whether Canada should adopt a more prominent role in supporting the US on their increasingly sophisticated project. Canada's delay in making an official statement is reportedly causing problems in its relationship with the US. The Defense Minister, John McCallum, is anticipated to make a decision in the near future.

Meanwhile, work to enable the operational status of basic elements of the US missile defense project in Alaska is reportedly taking place on time and on budget. John Tones, Deputy Director of the activation site said the objective is to have alert missiles ready for the Pentagon's ground-based midcourse defense program by the end of 2004.

Sources: *Alaska Journal*, 24 November 2003; *Reuters*, 24 November 2003; *British American Security Information Council (BASIC) Missile Defense Update*, November 2003.

International Law

ERITREA AND HONDURAS RATIFY THE COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY

Honduras and Eritrea both recently ratified the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), bringing the total number of treaty ratifications to 108 countries. Opened for signature on 24 September 1996, the CTBT bans any nuclear weapon test explosion in any environment. It has so far achieved 33 of the 44 ratifications needed by nuclear capable states for it to enter into force.

Sources: *CTBTO Press Releases 4 and 12 November 2003*; *Global Security Newswire 20 November 2003*.

Inter'l Peace & Security

UN HIGH LEVEL PANEL SEARCH FOR COLLECTIVE SOLUTION TO GLOBAL SECURITY THREATS

Further to his speech on 23 September 2003, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has appointed a 16 person panel of eminent personalities to examine new global security threats and propose international responses.

Former Prime Minister Anand Panyarachun of Thailand will chair the high level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change. The panel will be "tasked with examining the major threats and challenges the world faces in the broad field of

peace and security, including economic and social issues insofar as they relate to peace and security, and making recommendations for the elements of a collective response.”

In a letter addressed to the President of the General Assembly, Julian Robert Hunte, Annan said, “The past year has shaken foundations of collective security and undermined confidence in the possibility of collective responses to our common problems and challenges.” He added, “It has also brought to the fore deep divergences in opinion on the range and nature of the challenges we face, and are likely to face in the future.”

Source: UN News Centre, 5 November 2003.

Nuclear Energy

GERMANY’S PHASE OUT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

On 14 November 2003, Germany permanently shut down one of its nineteen nuclear reactors, marking its clear commitment to phase out nuclear energy. In 2000, the German government reached a legal agreement with the nuclear industry to shut all its nuclear reactors by 2025, confirming that the long-term use of nuclear energy for electricity generation is unacceptable due to its high risks. The New Atomic Energy Act will further Germany’s environmental reform by prohibiting the construction of new nuclear power plants. “This new direction in energy policy shows that a major industrialized country can prosper without using electricity generated from nuclear energy,” Federal Environment Minister Jürgen Trittin stated.

Germany’s pre-existing policy to curb greenhouse gases produced by fossil fuels makes the halt of nuclear energy production even more significant. Presently, nuclear energy provides one third of all Germany’s electricity. This figure will be reduced as one reactor is closed each year. The lost energy will then be redistributed into renewable energy sources such as wind. “Renewable energies, greater energy efficiency, energy saving and the nuclear phase-out are the cornerstones of a responsible and future-oriented energy policy,” said Trittin.

Germany’s bold commitment to ending all nuclear production is setting a trend throughout European countries. Following Germany’s lead, Belgium and Sweden have publicly announced their commitment toward a future free of nuclear energy.

The European Union on the other hand has nominated France as the most suitable location for a new multibillion-dollar nuclear reactor called the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER). The electricity produced will add to France’s existing energy supply made up of 80% nuclear energy. Other international allies involved in this project include, the US, Canada, China, Japan, Russia and South Korea.

Sources: BBC News, 26 November 2003; Reuters, 14 and 21

November, 2003; Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Press Release, April 2002; BBC News, 15 June 2000.

MORE PROBLEMS REVEALED IN THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT

New scientific studies have revealed further problems with the burial of high-level radioactive waste proposed for storage at the US’s first nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The federal Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board recently sent the US Department of Energy (DOE) a lengthy letter confirming that the “miracle metal” waste package designed to hold deadly nuclear waste will likely corrode much earlier in the repository’s planned 10,000-year storage, and must be addressed. “The canister performance is the linchpin of the whole deal and the review board’s letter has caused a real problem for the DOE on whether it goes forward,” said Bob Lux, Director of Nevada’s Agency for Nuclear Projects.

Over the past year a privately funded research team put together by Congress, found significant evidence that the radioactivity in the spent fuel rods, combined with the high temperature repository design, could lead to unexpected chemical changes and result in the widespread corrosion of the metal casks. Once the radioactive contents are exposed, it could leak into the aquifer just below the Mountain, affecting nearby inhabitants. Margaret Chu, Director Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management of the DOE, told members of the board, “I do not agree that the data cited by the board support such definitive conclusions.” Scientific researchers on the other hand insist that the evidence was gathered from the DOE’s own information.

The troubling reality with these significant scientific discoveries is that they were found so late in the game, leading to the question: What other unknown problems will occur over the next ten thousand years? As Bob Lux has stated, “The uncertainties that are involved in the Yucca Mountain assessment are so large that literally neither DOE nor anyone else knows what’s going to occur underground if waste is stored there.”

Despite mounting evidence that Yucca Mountain is not suitable for development, the DOE will seek a licensing application, in December 2004, to authorize the building of the site, scheduled to open in 2010.

Sources: Letter to Department of Energy from Nuclear Technical Review Board, 25 November 2003; The San Francisco Chronicle, 17 November 2003; Las Vegas Review Journal, 1 November 2003.

PROPOSED 2004 US ENERGY BILL LAVISHLY SUBSIDIZES NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

On 21 November 2003, a Senate filibuster blocked the 2004, \$31 billion Energy Bill (HR6), leaving the nation without energy legislation until next year. As it stands, the bill favors the

fossil fuel and nuclear industry over renewable energy practices. Some key nuclear provisions include: \$ 7.5 billion in tax subsidies for nuclear energy and \$165 million in tax credits for new nuclear power plants. The nuclear industry would also receive \$1.1 billion for a new nuclear reactor to produce hydrogen fuel. At least \$2.7 billion would go for research and development of new reactors under the industry-written "Nuclear Power 2010" program.

Sources: Reuters, 25 November 2003; Nuclear Information and Resource Service, 18 November 2003.

Nuclear Insanity

RUSSIANS ASSIST IN PROLIFERATION OF INDIAN NUCLEAR REACTORS

On 2 November 2003, Russia called for the lifting of international bans on its nuclear cooperation with India. Proclaiming a lack of alternative energy sources, India has launched plans to build an additional four reactors in order to meet the nation's growing energy needs. Currently involved in the construction of a 21,000 megawatt nuclear power plant at Koodankulam, Russia plans to assist India in the construction of its new reactors.

As one of the 30 signatories of the Nuclear Safeguards (NSG) agreement, Russia is prohibited from selling nuclear technology to any country that does not possess safeguards approved by the IAEA on all of its nuclear facilities.

In arguing for lifting NSG regulations, Russian Atomic Energy Minister Alexander Rumyantsev claims India is unique in developing its nuclear weapons technology without third party assistance and holds a flawless record on nuclear non-proliferation activities. New Delhi argues that the NSG restrictions apply only to nuclear technology transfers to "non-nuclear weapon states" and not to India, as it became a de facto nuclear weapon state following its 1998 nuclear tests.

Sources: The Times of India, 12 November 2003; The Hindu, 3 November 2003.

Foundation News

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

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 from 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 email cpizzinat@napf.org

FOUNDATION CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Foundation held its 20th annual Evening for Peace on 15 November, 2003. The Foundation's 2003 Distinguished Peace Leadership Award was presented to author, activist and educator Jonathan Schell. The 2003 World Citizenship Award was presented to world-renowned entertainer and humanitarian Harry Belafonte. The event was attended by more than 430 Foundation supporters, including more than 100 high school and college students. Photographs from the evening are available on <http://www.rodolle.com/contactsheet/napf03/>. Audiotapes of the evening's keynote speeches will be available from the Foundation. For information please contact Chris Pizzinat at 805.965.3443.

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT VISITS JAPAN

Foundation President David Krieger traveled to Japan in November. He participated in a Middle Powers Initiative delegation that met with Japanese government officials and urged their support for stronger initiatives on eliminating nuclear weapons. He also participated in the 2nd Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, where he gave a speech entitled, "Toward the 2005 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference." David Krieger was involved in the drafting committee of the Nagasaki Appeal, which addresses the urgent pleas of Hibakusha to end dependence on nuclear weapons and calls on citizens around the world to work with their political leaders to create strong public support for banning nuclear weapons for all time. David Krieger received an award from the Kyushu Soka Gakkai and delivered a speech on "Rising to the Challenge of Peace."

For the full text of "Toward the 2005 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference" go to http://www.wagingpeace.org/articles/2003/11/23_krieger_speech-nagasaki.htm

NAPF WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE IN HAVANA

From 5-6 November, NAPF's Washington D.C. representative Devon Chaffee attended the General Conference of OPANAL (Organisation for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean). This organization was established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco, through which countries in Latin America and the Caribbean agreed not to develop, acquire or deploy nuclear weapons. The Conference was held in Havana, as Cuba recently became the last eligible country to ratify the treaty in October 2002.

The Conference was extremely proactive and attending country delegations signaled their desire to push for disarmament on a global scale. OPANAL's Secretary General has invited Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) France, China, Russia, the UK and the US to withdraw their unilateral declarations to the treaty's Protocols. These declarations needlessly limit the commitment of NWS not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against country members of the Tlatelolco treaty. OPANAL is also pushing for a conference of all member states of regional Nuclear Weapons Free Zones (NWFZ). Because such zones cover over half of the world, such a conference would be a formidable demonstration of solidarity among non-nuclear weapon states, heightening pressure on states with nuclear weapons to fulfill their disarmament obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Devon delivered a short statement at the conference, addressing the importance of the UN study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, the unilateral declarations to the Protocols, the NWFZ member state conference and her concerns about the transit of nuclear weapons through NWFZ.

Resources

PEACE: 100 IDEAS

Nuclear Age Peace Foundation president David Krieger and Joshua C. Chen of Chen Design Associates have published a new book entitled **Peace: 100 Ideas**. The book provides 100 simple ideas to promote peace. Visit this website to learn more about the book and to place an order: <http://www.peace100ideas.com/>

BEEN BROWN SO LONG IT LOOKED LIKE GREEN TO ME

Common Courage has published a book on environmental politics entitled, "Been Brown So Long It Looked Like Green to Me." The publication has a chapter on nuclear weapons and their military uses and consequences. For more information, please contact Common Courage Press at:
PO Box 702, Monroe, ME 04951 USA or call 207.525.0900 or 800.497.3207.

LAUNCH OF NEW WAGINGPEACE WEBSITE

In October 2003, NAPF 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 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

"Sir, if the ability of the Star Wars Anti-Ballistic Missiles (ABM) to hit a nuclear missile is imaginary and the nuclear missiles in Iraq are imaginary, does this mean a Star Wars ABM could hit an Iraqi nuclear missile?"

- Columnist Calvin Trillin of the *New Yorker*, in his article "Questions for Bush's Next Press Conference," 17 November 2003.

"Since the tragedy of 9/11, our government has embraced a paranoiac view of the world summarized in a phrase President Bush used on Sept. 20, 2001: 'Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists.' I suspect that officials who have adopted the 'with us or against us' formulation don't know its historical origins. It was used by Lenin to attack the social democrats as anti-Bolshevik and to justify handling them accordingly. This phrase is part of our policymaker's defining focus, summed up by the words 'war on terrorism.' War on terrorism reflects, in my view, a rather narrow and extremist vision of foreign policy for a superpower and for a great democracy with genuinely idealistic traditions."

- Zbigniew Brzezinski, National Security Advisor to former President Jimmy Carter, in a speech delivered on 28 October 2003.

"Bush feels that on September 11th he was anointed by God. He's leading the US and the world toward a vicious circle of escalating violence."

- George Soros, in an interview with the *Washington Post*, 11 November 2003.

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Please join us in taking active measures to reduce the nuclear weapons threat to our planet. Our projects offer critical analysis, policy recommendations and public advocacy.

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For information on planned giving and bequests, please contact Chris Pizzinat at 805.965.3443. Donations are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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