

THE SUNflower



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

Issue #161 - December 2010

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Perspectives

Changing the Climate of Complacency

by David Krieger

Representatives of governments and civil society organizations are gathered in Cancun to take action on the climate change that is threatening our beautiful but beleaguered planet. The changes, which are resulting in global warming, pose extremely dangerous threats to quality of life and even survival for people today and in the future.

There is another way in which the term “climate change” may be used. That is, to refer to “climate” in the sense of “ambiance.” There is a strong need to change the climate of our thinking, specifically the passive acceptance of the abuse of our planet and its myriad species, including our own. In this sense, humanity lives far too much in a “climate” of ignorance and indifference. We have organized ourselves into consumer societies that demonstrate little concern for our responsibilities to the planet, to each other and to the future.

To read more, [click here](#).

Declaration on the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons

by Nobel Peace Laureates

The undersigned Nobel Peace Laureates and representatives of Nobel Peace Prize organizations, gathered in Hiroshima on November 12-14, 2010, after listening to the testimonies of the Hibakusha, have no doubt that the use of nuclear weapons against any people must be regarded as a crime against humanity and should henceforth be prohibited.

We pay tribute to the courage and suffering of the Hibakusha who survived the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945 and honor those that have dedicated their lives to teaching the rest of the world about the horrors of nuclear war. Like them, we pledge ourselves to work for a future committed to peace, justice and security without nuclear weapons and war.

To read more, [click here](#).

US Nuclear Weapons Policy

Wikileaks Reveals Four European Countries Hosting US Nuclear Weapons

Files recently released by the website Wikileaks have confirmed that four European countries - Germany, the Netherlands, Turkey and Belgium - have US nuclear weapons on their soil under the guise of NATO. Italy is also widely thought to have US nuclear weapons on its soil, but these particular files did not confirm that. A memo written by Philip Murphy, US Ambassador to Germany, discusses the possibility of withdrawing US nuclear weapons from Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium.

Phillips, Leigh, "Four European States Host US Nuclear Bombs, Wikileaks Reveals," *EU Observer*, November 29, 2010.

Nuclear Disarmament

India and US Promote Dialogue Among Nuclear-Armed Nations

In a recent meeting between US President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, the two leaders agreed that dialogue is necessary among the five acknowledged nuclear powers (Russia, China, France, US and UK) as well as the three nations that have more recently developed nuclear weapons (India, Pakistan and Israel).

Obama and Singh's joint statement reads in part, "The two leaders affirmed that their countries' common ideals, complementary strengths and a shared commitment to a world without nuclear weapons give them a responsibility to forge a strong partnership to lead global efforts for non-proliferation and universal and non-discriminatory global nuclear disarmament in the 21st century. They affirmed the need for a meaningful dialogue among all states possessing nuclear weapons to build trust and confidence and for reducing the salience of nuclear weapons in international affairs and security doctrines. They support strengthening the six decade-old international norm of non-use of nuclear weapons."

"India, US Back Talks by All Nuclear-Armed Nations", *Global Security Newswire*, November 9, 2010.

Nuclear Proliferation

North Korea Shows Off New Uranium Enrichment Facility

Siegfried Hecker, an American scientist, was recently given a tour of a new North Korean nuclear facility that was built for the purpose of enriching uranium. North Korea made its existing nuclear weapons with plutonium from spent nuclear fuel. Many experts believe that North Korea is now seeking to build new nuclear weapons using highly-enriched uranium.

Obama Administration officials said they have no intention of reopening negotiations with North Korea unless it “demonstrated a seriousness of purpose and constructive action” to live up to its past promises to dismantle its nuclear facilities.

Sanger, David, “North Korea Working with Uranium at Vast New Plant,” *The New York Times*, November 20, 2010.

Musharraf Says Pakistani Government Responsible for Proliferation Ring

Former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf says that the once large-scale nuclear proliferation ring was created by the government of Pakistan and not Abdul Quadeer Khan. In 2004, Khan admitted to selling information to North Korea, Iran, and Libya. Musharraf said, “The massive network was of the Pakistan government and our intelligence, not of A.Q. Khan's network.”

Khan was freed from house arrest in 2009 by the Pakistani government, but is still barred from speaking with the media and foreign governments.

“Nuke Ring Work of Government, Not Khan, Musharraf Says,” *Global Security Newswire*, November 15, 2010.

Brazil to Redouble Uranium Enrichment Efforts

Brazil has announced plans to build up to six new nuclear-powered submarines, a move that will require the country to enrich a significant amount of uranium. Brazilian officials have expressed confidence that they will be able to produce up to 40 tons of enriched uranium annually.

Many Latin American experts worry that Brazil's massive naval buildup will cause copy-cat actions in other countries across the region, leading to a significant increase in militarism in the area. During Brazil's military dictatorship in the 1970s and 1980s, the country had a nuclear weapons program. The program was dismantled in 1990 before a nuclear weapon could be fully constructed.

“Brazil Unveils Massive Navy Buildup Plans,” *United Press International*, November 22, 2010.

Nuclear Insanity

Bomb Kills Iranian Nuclear Scientist

Two top Iranian nuclear scientists were the victims of separate bomb attacks by unidentified assailants on motorcycles. One of the scientists was killed in the attacks. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said that “undoubtedly the hand of the Zionist regime and Western governments is involved.”

These attacks came one day after Wikileaks revealed US State Department documents quoting several Arab leaders urging the US to attack Iran’s nuclear facilities.

Yong, William and Alan Cowell, “Bomb Kills Iranian Nuclear Scientist,” *The New York Times*, November 29, 2010.

Nuclear Weapon Drivers Found Drinking on the Job

A new US Department of Energy report says that drivers of trucks used to carry nuclear weapons and parts were occasionally intoxicated while carrying out their duties. Such incidents constitute "a potential vulnerability" in a "critical national security mission," the report says.

The federal government employs close to 600 people for transporting nuclear weapons, parts and materials around the country.

“Nuclear-Weapon Drivers Found Drinking on Job,” *Global Security Newswire*, November 22, 2010.

Nuclear Labs

UK Scientists Call for Nuclear Research Cut

A distinguished group of 36 British scientists want funding cuts in nuclear research in order to allocate funds for other necessary forms of scientific research. The scientists claim that climate change, limited resources, and growing medical problems deserve protection, and that spending cuts should be made in the area of nuclear weapons research. Currently, nuclear weapons research receives 25% of the UK scientific research budget.

Baruah, Jamshed, “UK Scientists Plead for Axing Nuke Research,” *InDepthNews*, October 15, 2010.

Nuclear Testing

France and UK to Share Nuclear Testing Facilities

France and the UK recently signed a landmark defense pact that will allow the two countries to use joint facilities for testing their nuclear arsenals. The agreement also calls for the creation of joint French-British “rapid-reaction forces” and sharing of aircraft carriers. A British official stressed that while the two countries are cooperating, nuclear weapons information will not be exchanged because the countries have different technologies. He said that the treaty is to help split the economic cost of testing and equipment. The treaty will allow both countries to test their nuclear arsenals to make sure that they are “viable” and “safe.”

“Britain, France Sign Landmark Defense Pact,” *Agence France Presse*, November 2, 2010.

Nuclear Energy and Waste

Highly Contaminated Soil Found at Hanford

Workers at the Hanford nuclear site in Washington state have discovered highly radioactive waste beneath a building on the site. Radioactivity has been measured at 8,900 rad per hour, which would be about 10 times the lethal dose on contact, according to Hanford officials. The building where the leak was found is about 1,000 feet from the Columbia River.

The US Department of Energy has set the goal of having most cleanup along the Columbia River completed by 2015. However, previously unknown leaks such as this one may prevent the deadline from being met.

Cary, Annette, "Highly Contaminated Soil Found at Hanford," *Tri-City Herald*, November 18, 2010.

Resources

Comprehensive Guide to the New START Treaty

The Arms Control Association has published a guide to the issues and facts on the New START treaty. The guide includes the following information:

- An authoritative analysis of the national security benefits of the treaty and response to concerns that have been raised by skeptics;
- A summary of the key provisions of the treaty;
- A description of New START's impact on US strategic nuclear forces;
- An overview of past and current US-Russian nuclear arms agreements;
- A description of the administration's long-range plan and budget for maintaining the US nuclear arsenal and modernizing the weapons complex; and
- A selection of key statement from US military leaders and senior national security officials on the need for prompt ratification.

To download the full report, [click here](#).

Foundation Activities

Urge Your Senators to Ratify New START

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation recently sent out an action alert asking members to contact their senators to urge them to ratify the New START agreement with Russia. Thousands of members have already taken action. There is still time to make a difference on this issue. If you have not yet taken the action, [click here](#) to do so now. If you have already taken the action, please share it with your friends and family via email and social networking sites.

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Silicon Valley chapter (NAPF-SV) has teamed up with the Campaign for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World to call hundreds of voters in Massachusetts. Senator Scott Brown (R-MA) remains undecided about whether or not to ratify the treaty. If you are interested in helping out with phone banking on New START, [click here](#) for more information on the Campaign for a Nuclear Weapons-Free World.

Evening for Peace Honors Two Outstanding Peace Leaders

On October 29, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation honored Rev. James Lawson and Prof. Glenn Paige with the Foundation's Distinguished Peace Leadership Award. This year's extraordinary honorees gave those in attendance a mixture of hope, insight and inspiration with their outstanding acceptance speeches.

In his address, Prof. Glenn Paige greeted the audience with a long wave of both hands in the nonviolent Jain tradition of India. Prof. Paige, author of the book *Nonkilling Political Science*, expressed confidence that humans will be able to arrive at a point where nonkilling becomes the norm.

Rev. James Lawson, who Martin Luther King, Jr. once called "the leading theorist and strategist of nonviolence in the world," delivered a rousing speech that combined lessons of the Civil Rights movement with strong hope for a peaceful future.

To read more about the Evening for Peace and see photos from the event, [click here](#).

Paul Chappell Speaks in Kenya

NAPF Peace Leadership Program Director Paul Chappell recently traveled to Kenya to speak at a meeting of the Global Youth Peace Convention. Paul spoke to hundreds of passionate Kenyan youth about how to develop their skills as peace leaders.

Commenting on his experience in Kenya, Paul said, "I was not sure how well my message would be received because in my talks I make many references to American history, Americans who waged peace, and my personal story that taps into American themes and ideals. Consequently, I was surprised when the Kenyan youth responded as well to my message as any group I have ever spoken with."

He continued, "The Kenyan youth are hungry for change, but hunger alone does not solve the world's problems. We also need training, new ideas and a paradigm shift in understanding that leads to a moral revolution."

For more information on the Foundation's Peace Leadership Program, [click here](#).

Quotes

"Nuclear weapons are outdated. Just as a fire cannot extinguish fire, our inner fire that is anger and hatred cannot be pacified or extinguished by war and nuclear weapons."

-- **His Holiness the XIVth Dalai Lama** speaking at the Nobel Laureates summit in Hiroshima, Japan. The Dalai Lama is a member of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's Advisory Council.

“The following alternatives await us in the next 10 years. Either we reach an agreement on missile defense and create a joint mechanism for cooperation or, if we do not succeed in entering into a constructive understanding, there will begin a new arms race.”

-- Russian President **Dmitri Medvedev**, referring to the urgent need for Russia and the US to reach an agreement on missile defense plans.

“I'm hopeful that we can get that done...and send a strong signal to Russia that we're serious about reducing nuclear arsenals, but also send a signal to the world that we're serious about non-proliferation.”

-- US President **Barack Obama**, speaking about the need for the Senate to ratify New START before the end of the year.

“European leaders understand that New START advances their security as well as America's, and that is an important foundation for future negotiations on conventional forces and tactical nuclear weapons in Europe. That is why all 27 of our NATO allies expressed their desire to see the treaty's early ratification.”

-- US Vice President **Joseph Biden**, writing in the *Wall Street Journal*.

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