

# THE SUNflower



NUCLEAR AGE PEACE FOUNDATION

**Issue #185 - December 2012**

The Sunflower is a monthly e-newsletter providing educational information on nuclear weapons abolition and other issues relating to global security. Help us spread the word and forward this to a friend.

[Please donate](#) to help sustain this valuable resource.

[Subscribe](#) to the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's *Sunflower* newsletter and Action Alert Network.

- Perspectives
  - Outlawing Nuclear Weapons: Time for a New International Treaty? by David Krieger
  - H-Bomb Physicist, Richard Garwin, Predicts Probable Destruction of a City by Nuclear Weapon by Robert Kazel
- US Nuclear Weapons Policy
  - U.S. Bomb Refurbishment Project Will Cost Billions More
- Nuclear Disarmament
  - Middle East Nuclear-Free Zone Conference Canceled
- Nuclear Insanity
  - U.S. Cites Cost as Barrier to Participation in Disarmament Meeting
  - U.K. May Base Nuclear Submarines at U.S. Port
  - Guards at Nuclear Facility Caught Cheating on Exam
- Missile Defense
  - U.S. Missile Defenses in Europe Evokes Sharp Reaction from Russia
- Military-Industrial Complex
  - Russia Calls for Private Companies to Work on Nuclear Weapons
- Resources
  - A New U.S. Defense Strategy for a New Era
  - The Golden Rule to Set Sail Again
- Foundation Activities
  - Dennis Kucinich to Deliver 12th Annual Frank Kelly Lecture
  - New NAPF Annual Report Now Available
  - NAPF Letter in The New York Times
  - Give Gifts of Peace this Holiday Season
  - Support The Sunflower
- Quotes

---

## Perspectives

---

### **Outlawing Nuclear Weapons: Time for a New International Treaty?**

by David Krieger

Is it time for a new international treaty that would outlaw nuclear weapons? The short answer to this question is, Yes, it is time. Actually, it is past time. The critical question, however, is not whether we need a new international treaty. We do. The critical question is: How do we achieve the political will among the nuclear weapon states to begin negotiations for a new international treaty to outlaw and eliminate all nuclear weapons?

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

---

### **H-Bomb Physicist, Richard Garwin, Predicts Probable Destruction of a City by Nuclear Weapon**

by Robert Kazel

Dr. Richard Garwin was only 23 in May 1951 when he traveled from his research job at the University of Chicago to do a summer stint at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in New Mexico. A protégé of Enrico Fermi, Garwin eagerly solved a problem that had eluded older, more seasoned researchers at Los Alamos: taking the theoretical formula for thermonuclear fusion and sketching out a practical blueprint for a reliable working device.

Over the course of five decades as a professor and government consultant, Garwin built a world reputation as an expert on nuclear weaponry. Never easily categorized as a hawk or dove, he advised a long succession of Republican and Democratic administrations on technical issues.

Garwin spoke with NAPF, on the 60th anniversary of the historic explosion of the first thermonuclear weapon, about present nuclear threats facing the world, ballistic missile defense, and his hopes for further arms reductions.

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

---

## US Nuclear Weapons Policy

---

### **U.S. Bomb Refurbishment Project Will Cost Billions More**

According to an independent cost assessment, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) has severely underestimated the cost needed to refurbish the U.S. stockpile of B61 nuclear bombs by billions of dollars. Already facing problems with its current budget, the NNSA will need to come up with an additional \$1 billion every year for the next few years to meet the goals of its refurbishment project.

The U.S. deploys approximately 180 B61 nuclear bombs in five European countries under the auspices of NATO. In total, an estimated 400 B61 bombs would require refurbishment. In 2010, the NNSA stated that refurbishing the bombs would cost \$3.9 billion. Since then, the agency has refused to release updated projects costs, but independent assessments show that the projected cost has nearly doubled.

Fleck, John, "[Billions More Needed to Refurbish Bombs](#)," *ABQ Journal*, November 4, 2012.

## Nuclear Disarmament

---

### Middle East Nuclear-Free Zone Conference Canceled

An international conference on establishing a Middle East Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone (MEWMDFZ), originally planned for December 2012 in Finland, has been canceled. U.S. State Department spokesperson Victoria Nuland said that current conditions in the region prevent the conference from taking place.

It has been rumored that Israel declined to attend the conference. Proponents of the conference had said that it was only possible if all countries in the Middle East would participate.

The MEWMDFZ was identified by many countries as an essential a condition of the 1995 indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference reiterated the importance of achieving the goal.

["US Says no Conference on Nuclear-Free Mideast for Now, Cites Present Conditions in Region,"](#) *Associated Press*, November 23, 2012.

## Nuclear Insanity

---

### U.S. Cites Cost as Barrier to Participation in Disarmament Meeting

In November, the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly First Committee concluded its month-long annual meeting addressing disarmament and international security concerns. Fifty-three resolutions were passed, including a call for a special meeting of senior officials on the issue of nuclear disarmament. The resolution was introduced by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and passed with 165 votes in favor and none in opposition. France, Israel, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the United States abstained.

The U.S. representative cited cost implications as the reason for abstaining from the vote. Adoption of the resolution would create an additional financial requirement of \$77,000, which Washington cautioned would place an added burden on its United Nations financial planning.

The United States plans to spend an estimated \$640 billion over the next ten years on nuclear weapons and related programs. This breaks down to over \$120,000 per minute for the next ten years.

["U.N. First Committee Concludes Yearly Meeting,"](#) *Global Security Newswire*, November 8, 2012.

### U.K. May Base Nuclear Submarines at U.S. Port

A new report issued by the British Parliament's Scottish Affairs Committee indicates that the United Kingdom may temporarily base its nuclear-armed submarines at a U.S. military seaport if Scotland votes for independence in 2014 and refuses to continue hosting the U.K.'s submarine-based nuclear arsenal.

The report states, "Any agreement whether to relocate the U.K. nuclear deterrent outside the British Isles, possibly in France or the USA, would be a decision for the U.K. in discussion with its allies."

Grossman, Elaine, ["U.K. Lawmakers Eye Basing Submarines at U.S. Port, if Expelled by Scots,"](#) *Global Security Newswire*, October 31, 2012.

---

## Guards at Nuclear Facility Caught Cheating on Exam

An internal investigation by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has shown that a recertification exam, along with the answers, was circulated to guards at the Y-12 National Security Complex in Tennessee in advance of their taking the exam. The security contractor, B&W, was given a copy of the exam to check over before it was administered because the federal government did not know enough about the security arrangements to write the exam on its own.

The facility's security situation was already under intense scrutiny after three anti-nuclear activists, including 82-year-old Sister Megan Rice, cut through three layers of security fence, splashed blood on a building holding weapons-grade uranium and went undetected for a significant period of time.

Wald, Matthew, "[Exam Leaked to Guards at Y-12 Nuclear Site, Inquiry Finds](#)," *The New York Times*, October 31, 2012.

---

## Missile Defense

### U.S. Missile Defenses in Europe Evokes Sharp Reaction from Russia

In response to U.S. plans to place elements of a missile defense system in Eastern Europe, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin stated that Russia will retaliate "in the sharpest manner" should any U.S. Aegis-equipped warships approach Russian waters.

The U.S. views the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense technology as a crucial component of its sea-based missile defense system in Europe, ostensibly aimed at protecting the continent from potential ballistic missile strikes from Iran or North Korea.

Russia strongly opposes the planned fielding of missile interceptors around Europe, viewing it as a U.S.-NATO scheme to undermine Russia's long-range nuclear missile forces. "We have never placed our interceptor missiles near U.S. borders on ridiculous fabricated pretexts such as 'protecting our American friends from Canada and Honduras,'" stated Rogozin. "But they do, on the pretext of protecting us and Europe from 'bad guys in Iran and North Korea.'"

"[Russia Vows Pointed Response to Encroaching U.S. Aegis Warships](#)," *Global Security Newswire*, November 12, 2012.

---

## Military-Industrial Complex

### Russia Calls for Private Companies to Work on Nuclear Weapons

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin has called for an initiative to allow Russian private companies to participate in the country's development of nuclear weapons. Rogozin, who oversees the defense industry, stated that the volume of private capital in the Russian defense industry should be brought up to 30-35 percent. Although private businesses can participate in the production of electronic components and new materials, Rogozin stressed that ultimate production of nuclear weapons would remain under the absolute control of the state.

Radnaev, Vitaly, "[Private Companies to Take Part in the Nuclear Shield Development](#)," *The Voice of Russia*, November 12, 2012.

---

## Resources

---

### **A New U.S. Defense Strategy for a New Era**

A new report published by the Defense Advisory Committee convened by the Stimson Center concludes that the U.S. should "reduce the size of its nuclear forces as rapidly as possible, preferably through a new treaty with Russia, and make commensurate reductions in planned nuclear modernization programs."

The report focuses on U.S. defense planning and spending in light of the possible cuts to the Pentagon budget through automatic sequestration.

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

---

### **The Golden Rule to Set Sail Again**

Veterans for Peace is undertaking a project to repair, restore and renovate the famous sailing ketch, the Golden Rule. This ship was sailed by four brave crewmen, led by Albert Bigelow, in an attempt to stop atmospheric nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands. They were boarded by the US Coast Guard, arrested, and the boat towed back to Honolulu, twice.

Veterans For Peace, together with friends of the Golden Rule, will once again sail this vessel in opposition to militarism and the manufacture, testing, and use of nuclear weapons. Over a period of years, they plan for the Golden Rule to take its message of peace far and wide – on all three U.S. coasts, as well as the Great Lakes and inland waterways.

For more information on the Golden Rule Project, [click here](#).

---

## Foundation Activities

---

### **Dennis Kucinich to Deliver 12th Annual Frank Kelly Lecture**

Dennis Kucinich, an eight-term congressman from Ohio, will deliver the 12th Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on Humanity's future on February 8 in Santa Barbara. Rep. Kucinich, who is currently finishing his final term in the House of Representatives, has also served for many years as the United Nations Representative for the group Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament.

The Annual Frank K. Kelly Lecture on Humanity's Future was established by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in 2001. Frank K. Kelly was a founder and senior vice president of the Foundation. He was a visionary advocate for humanity and inspired many people through his writing and example to take action on behalf of humanity.

Dennis Kucinich's lecture will take place on Friday, February 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lobero Theatre in Santa Barbara, California. The lecture is free and open to the public.

For more information on the Kelly Lecture series, [click here](#).

---

### **New NAPF Annual Report Now Available**

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has published its latest annual report, entitled "We All Have a Role to Play." The Foundation's programs focus on collective action and advocacy. We mobilize people and engage leaders across the globe to achieve our goals.

Our new annual report highlights the Foundation's many programs and activities in 2011. It shows how everyone has an important role to play in achieving the mission of abolishing nuclear weapons.

To read a copy of the annual report online, [click here](#).

---

### **NAPF Letter in The New York Times**

NAPF President David Krieger and Senior Vice President Richard Falk co-authored a letter to the editor of *The New York Times* that was published in the November 15 edition of the newspaper. The letter was in response to an editorial stating that nuclear disarmament is unlikely to happen any time soon.

Krieger and Falk's letter reads in part:

"In our view, there has rarely been a better time to initiate a negotiated process of phased nuclear disarmament, and there is no reason that such a process should be stretched out over a long period. We are at one of those few times in international history with no acute conflict between major states.

"In our view, the United States should prepare proposals for nuclear disarmament and convene an international conference of the nine nuclear-weapon states. Nothing could do more to restore America's claim to world leadership. At the very least, President Obama would belatedly show that his 2009 Nobel Peace Prize was not wrongly awarded."

To read the full letter, [click here](#).

---

### **Give Gifts of Peace this Holiday Season**

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's online Peace Store offers a number of great peace-related gifts for the holidays. The newest addition to the store is a page-a-day calendar based on our popular book of quotations, *Speaking of Peace: Quotations to Inspire Action*.

We also offer numerous books, t-shirts and other items. All proceeds from the sale of these items will be used to expand the Foundation's work for peace and a world free from the threat of nuclear weapons.

[Click here](#) to visit the Peace Store.

---

### **Support The Sunflower**

The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is in the midst of a year-end fund drive to help support our work to educate and advocate for a world free of nuclear weapons. Can you help us continue our progress by making a donation?

Your donation will help build a solid base of support that allows NAPF to, among other things, provide accurate, balanced, and timely news on nuclear issues through *The Sunflower*. This free and convenient resource fills a critical gap in information not covered by mainstream media and keeps the public updated and educated on important nuclear and security news.

To make a donation today, [click here](#).

---

## Quotes

---

"I think Japan should at least carry out an analysis on going nuclear....The diplomatic voice of countries without nuclear weapons is overwhelmingly weak."

-- **Shintaro Ishihara**, former governor of Tokyo who is leading a new political organization that will participate in the upcoming Japanese general elections.

---

"Proliferation cannot be treated as a regional problem. A regional conflict has the potential to cause mass starvation worldwide through environmental effects."

-- **Alan Robock** and **Owen Brian Toon**, in an [article](#) in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists detailing the catastrophic effects of a regional nuclear war in which 0.03 percent of the global nuclear arsenal's explosive power is used on cities.

---

"The human race cannot coexist with nuclear weapons."

-- **Ichho Itoh**, former Mayor of Nagasaki. The quote appears in the book *Speaking of Peace: Quotations to Inspire Action* edited by NAPF President David Krieger. It is available to purchase online in the Foundation's [Peace Store](#).

---

## Editorial Team

---

David Krieger  
Mona Saghri  
Carol Warner  
Rick Wayman