

# Peace & Freedom

MAGAZINE OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM

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## Disarm!

**Dismantling the War Economy**  
**Blix Report: Freeing the World of**  
**Weapons of Terror**



From the Catonsville Branch of WILPF comes this photo of Lynn Robinson and the Peace Puppets participating in the Martin Luther King, Jr., Day parade. The puppets in the car are Maxine and Earl.

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**Cover Photo:** A triumphant Susi Snyder (center), WILPF International Secretary General, and WILPF UN staff members join a march in New York City to support the Nuclear Weapons Non-Proliferation Treaty. This photo was taken just before the 2005 Review Conference. Rhianna Tyson, to the right of Susi, was then directing Reaching Critical Will. In May 2007, Susi, Jennifer Nordstrom, and a new batch of Reaching Critical Will interns will press for progress at the NPT preparation in Vienna, Austria.

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**The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)** has been working since 1915 to unite women worldwide who oppose oppression and exploitation. WILPF stands for equality of all people in a world free of racism, sexism, and homophobia; the building of a constructive peace through world disarmament; and the changing of government priorities to meet human needs.

**National Program:** WILPF envisions a world free of violence, poverty, pollution, and domination — a genuine new world order of peace and justice. WILPF's program stands firm for disarmament and against oppression. The 2005-2008 program cycle has two key campaign areas: Women Challenging U.S. Policy: Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East and Save the Water.

**WILPF has sections in 37 countries** coordinated by an international office in Geneva. U.S. WILPF carries out its work through grassroots organizing by WILPF branches, coordinated by a national office in Philadelphia. WILPF supports the work of the United Nations and has NGO (non-governmental organization) status.

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# Disarmament: Time for rededication

Mary Day Kent, Executive Director

As I write, it is January, but it will be April by the time you have this magazine in your hands. We have just had the privilege for several days of having the curtain of our press and television suddenly pierced by the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. His ringing, challenging, and inspiring voice echoes around me.

I also recall that April is the other end of Dr. King's arc. In April 1967 he gave the speech at Riverside Church in New York in which he definitively laid out the connections between peace and justice, followed the next April by the assassination that ended his life. In this issue of *Peace & Freedom* we highlight the fundamental need for disarmament, from nuclear bombs to Saturday night specials, from the complexities of international negotiations to the simplicity of children's coffins.

Dr. King was a member of WILPF, one of a number of distinguished African-American men who joined in the 1950s when U.S. WILPF opened its membership to men. His speech at the Riverside Church was entitled "Beyond Vietnam," indicating the wider goal of peace beyond the urgent necessity of ending the war of the moment. While he could not have been more clear in his condemnation of the Vietnam war — "this nightmarish conflict" and "disgraceful commitment" — he soared beyond that to challenge the roots of war in U.S. society, warning that unless these causes are fundamentally changed, "we will find ourselves organizing 'clergy and laymen concerned' committees for the next generation... and we will be attending rallies without end unless there is a significant and profound change in American life and policy ... a nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death."

His 1967 talk concludes with an admonition that is stunning to read, forty years on: "In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there is such a thing as being too late...time is adamant to every plea and rushes on."

The words of Dr. King apply to the war in Iraq and all the other conflicts currently wasting lives and resources around the world. They also apply to the ongoing need for nuclear disarmament, the theme of this issue of *Peace & Freedom*. Many WILPF members recall participating in world movements for disarmament in the 1980s, WILPF's STAR campaign (Stop the Arms Race), the peace marches,

the massive million-strong demonstration in New York City at the UN Disarmament Conference, the rising of the Nuclear Freeze initiatives in cities and towns across the country. In the decades since, the nuclear stockpile has diminished but remains at hundreds of times more than "overkill." New government plans for nuclear war in space and repackaging nuclear weapons to make them more usable in battle are constantly being researched, funded, and tested. WILPF and other peace organizations continually challenge these moves, but the wave of popular involvement in nuclear disarmament has washed away.



***Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long and bitter, but beautiful, struggle for a new world.***

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Riverside Church, New York City, April 4, 1967

Disarmament has become a mysterious and (rightly) scary subject, and many of us turn our energy to other issues that seem to offer more hope. But there is no issue in which hope is more necessary and action more urgent. This issue of

*Peace & Freedom* is offered as a useful set of resources for those who are looking for a way to become re-involved with disarmament. WILPF has an active DISARM! committee, and International WILPF has a wonderful disarmament resource in its Reaching Critical Will project. ([www.reachingcriticalwill.org](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org))

A successor to Dr. King in the field of challenging peacemakers is Dr. Hans Blix. Many of us first heard of Hans Blix in the months before the United States' invasion of Iraq. He was the UN inspector given the impossible task of proving that Saddam Hussein had not hidden weapons of mass destruction. His reports that none could be found were eventually corroborated, even by the U.S. military's search effort, months after the invasion had taken place.

In the years since leaving the UN, Dr. Blix has led a study, released in June 2006, on the global question of disarmament, called *Weapons of Terror: Freeing the World of Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Arms*. On pages 6 and 7 we offer a synopsis of this report, a blueprint of both the risks these weapons present to the world and the path we can still take to turn away from destruction. This offers us a way out of fear to action, action that calls for Dr. King's "fierce urgency of now."

This issue of *Peace & Freedom* is full of resources for action from WILPF committees, campaigns, and branches, along with thoughtful analyses of the ways disarmament interconnects with the fabric of our work for peace in the Middle East, advocacy for human rights, and saving water for humans and all living beings. ❖

# DISARM! DISMANTLE THE WAR ECONOMY



*An overview by Carol Urner, Chair of the DISARM! Committee*

**W**e in U.S. WILPF have a full disarmament agenda for 2007 and 2008. The war economy, aggressively promoted by the military-industrial complex, expands rapidly at the expense of human needs, security, life and liberty at home and abroad. The current U.S. administration barrels forward on the rebuilding of the complete nuclear arsenal and seeks unchallenged control of space by 2030 at trillions in cost, great profit to military industries, and danger to life on earth. Biodefense/bioweapons research continues expanding rapidly, with \$44 billion appropriated since U.S. Ambassador to the UN John Bolton torpedoed the UN inspection protocol in 2001.

Tragically, instead of leading the world away from wars, our nation is defying international law, undermining the United Nations, and stimulating a new global arms race.

But WILPF members can never give up. At the United Nations, U.S. WILPF works with Reaching Critical Will and the Geneva office to counter U.S. threats to the range of disarmament treaties negotiated during the dangerous years of the Cold War. Step-by-step, WILPF seeks to help governments move forward, gradually transforming into reality the visions set forth in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the UN treaty system.

The DISARM! committee continues to work directly on these issues and maintains WILPF web pages (accessible from the WILPF home page or at [www.disarm.wilpf.org](http://www.disarm.wilpf.org)), loaded with information, resources, and action calendars.

The real work, however, is done by members and branches.

**Dismantling the war economy and building an economy of peace** remains a key objective. Progress in disarmament is nearly impossible while our economy remains dependent on weapons and war.

The *Mil-Corp ConneXion Manual* is a powerful tool for exposing and dismantling this war economy, educating our communities, and encouraging planning for and transformation to an economy of peace. By now every branch should have a resource copy. Boston, Philadelphia, and Twin Cities are currently using it as a study and action guide.

This year WILPF is working with War Resisters

League and nearly forty other organizations to develop national and international networks of Mil-Corp watchers committed to dismantling the war economy. WILPF is updating materials for *The Dirty Dozen: Partners in Mass Destruction* to be available in printed copies and to download from multiple web sites.

**Nuclear weapons abolition is again high on the WILPF 2007 agenda.** Even without the horrors of nuclear war, these weapons endanger life and the planet. In an article in this issue (*page 12*) Pat Birnie of Tucson, Arizona, writes on behalf of WILPF's Save the Water campaign. She makes clear the dangers U.S. nuclear programs pose to our rivers and ground water. Linda Richards of Ashland, Oregon, shares the terrible price

Indigenous peoples are paying for those same programs (*page 10*).

Polls show the vast majority of earth's people support abolition and find nuclear war unthinkable. Yet our government clings to nuclear weapons. Marge Van Cleef (Philadelphia) and Shirley Morrison (Seattle) remind us of existing horrors of Trident (*page 16*). Mil-Corp profiteers now promote a plan called Complex 2030. It advocates rebuilding the entire nuclear arsenal at billions (or trillions) of dollars in cost,

with new warheads, new plutonium pit production, uranium mining, possible resumption of nuclear testing, and vast quantities of nuclear waste.

WILPF works to stop this insanity. Mary Day Kent, executive director of U.S. WILPF, submitted comments on Complex 2030 at the December 2006 Environmental Impact hearing in Washington, D.C. (Go to [www.disarm.wilpf.org](http://www.disarm.wilpf.org) and see DISARM! Update for the statement and background information.) Complex 2030, of course, flagrantly defies the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the World Court ruling that nuclear weapons are illegal.

On the positive side, however, the Blix Com-

**Tragically, instead of leading the world away from wars, our nation is stimulating a new global arms race. But WILPF members can never give up. This issue of Peace & Freedom contains articles to help you wage peace.**

**Author Carol Urner** (standing) with Joan Ecklein.



mission Report (*see page 6*) calls on the United States to lead the world toward abolition of nuclear weapons. Even Henry Kissinger, George Schultz, Sam Nunn, and William Perry now call for abolition. Join our WILPF work with Congress to win support from hawks and doves alike for the practical steps toward abolition already agreed to in 2000 by all nations party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as the only sane alternative.

**Keeping Space for Peace continues to be another major WILPF goal**, countering the openly proclaimed Pentagon plan to dominate space to control both nations and the solar system. For the past three years, WILPF has cosponsored Keep Space for Peace Week in October, along with Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. Fifteen U.S. branches reported events during the week in 2006, and reports will be presented in May to UN agencies monitoring the Outer Space Treaty. MacGregor Eddy (Monterey) has developed a video and PowerPoint presentation for use in Branches, and DISARM! urges more Branches to join events in 2007.

WILPF DISARM! has cosponsored twice-yearly demonstrations at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, a Space Command Center. These will continue, but in 2007 emphasis will shift to Offut Air Force Base in Omaha, Nebraska, where the Pentagon is now moving central control for the Space Command. Firing of weapons from ICBMs to cluster bombs (*page 17*) to guns will now be satellite-controlled from Offut.

Join in continuing resistance to Congressional appropriations for space

based weapons, missile defense, and further space based militarization. Let's work with Reaching Critical Will and our Geneva UN office for Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS).

**Boston Branch has been deeply involved resisting a biodefense/bioweapons lab there**, and members share their experiences in this issue (*page 8*). San Francisco and Berkeley branches have joined resistance to military biolabs at Lawrence Livermore. Branches in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Portland, Seattle, Minneapolis, Madison, and Cambridge are also near biodefense or bioweapons labs that feed into military research. Check the *Mil-Corp Manual* for the biolab nearest you and get to work!

(To download the paper presented by Boston WILPF to UN delegates in Geneva and get more information on the Bioweapons treaty, go to DISARM! Update at [www.disarm.wilpf.org](http://www.disarm.wilpf.org).)

Current U.S. programs arouse suspicion, undermine the treaty, and could stimulate a new bioweapons arms race. However, diplomats and NGOs at the Bioweapons Treaty Conference this year were determined to move ahead toward transparency, universal adherence, and an eventual inspection regime, despite U.S. rejection of the inspection protocol in 2000.

It is with the same determination that we in WILPF continue working for a world without war in all our many committees and campaigns. We know many other organizations and individuals throughout the world share our visions and our goals. We cannot give up, and we must continue to build institutions of peace, as we seek an end to war. ❖



## Taking Action For Peace

**PORTLAND WILPF MEMBERS** Mary Bolton and Elizabeth Linder (*below*) **vigil with the Portland Branch weekly on disarmament and other WILPF issues.** Other Portlanders, including veterans, who share WILPF goals, often join the vigils. During Keep Space for Peace Week, Barbara Drageaux and Pat Hollingsworth (*right*) participated in one of seven Portland Branch events, which included space activist/singer Holly Gwinn Graham, bringing their message to university students and visits to members of Congress.





# Weapons of Terror: Freeing the World of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Arms

## *Synopsis*

.....

*This synopsis is taken from the May 2006 report by the independent Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission. Headed by Hans Blix, former UN weapons inspector for Iraq, the Commission's work was primarily financed by the Swedish government and the Simons Foundation of Canada, with help from a number of other contributors. The Commission analyzed the current situation in the world regarding nuclear weaponry and suggested constructive avenues out of these difficulties.*

*Today, less than a year later, one point in Dr. Blix's introduction has an uncomfortable prophetic ring: "If [the United States] takes the lead, the world is likely to follow. If it does not take the lead, there could be more nuclear tests and new nuclear arms races." - Editor*

### Why action is necessary

- Nuclear, biological, and chemical arms are the most inhumane of all weapons. Designed to terrify as well as destroy, they can, in the hands of either states or non-state actors, cause destruction on a vastly greater scale than any conventional weapons, and their impact is far more indiscriminate and long-lasting.
- So long as any state has such weapons — especially nuclear arms — others will want them. So long as any such weapons remain in any state's arsenal, there is a high risk that they will one day be used, by design or accident. Any such use would be catastrophic.
- Notwithstanding the end of the cold war balance of terror, stocks of such weapons remain extraordinarily and alarmingly high: some 27,000 in the case of nuclear weapons, of which around 12,000 are still actively deployed.
- Weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) cannot be uninvented. But, they can be outlawed, as biological and chemical weapons already have been, and their use made unthinkable. Compliance, verification, and enforcement rules can, with the requisite will, be effectively applied. And with that will, even the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons is not beyond the world's reach.
- Over the past decade, there has been a serious and dangerous loss of momentum and direction in disarmament and non-proliferation efforts. Treaty making and implementation have stalled and, as a new wave of proliferation has threatened, unilateral enforcement action has been increasingly advocated.
- In 2005 there were two loud wake-up calls in the failure of the NPT Review Conference and in the inability of the World Summit to agree on a single line about any WMD issue. It is critical for those calls to be heeded now.

### What must be done

The Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission makes many specific and detailed recommendations throughout its report. (*See Annex 1 of the complete report for a consolidated list.*) The most important of them are summarized below.

#### 1. AGREE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ACTION

- Disarmament and non-proliferation are best pursued through a cooperative rule-based international order, applied and enforced through effective multilateral institutions, with the United Nations Security Council as the ultimate global authority.

- There is an urgent need to revive meaningful negotiations, through all available intergovernmental mechanisms, on the three main objectives of reducing the danger of present arsenals, preventing proliferation and outlawing all weapons of mass destruction once and for all.
- States, individually and collectively, should consistently pursue policies designed to ensure that no State feels a need to acquire weapons of mass destruction.
- Governments and relevant intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental actors should begin preparations for a world summit on disarmament, non-proliferation, and terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction to generate new momentum for concerted international action.

## **2. REDUCE THE DANGER OF CURRENT ARSENALS: NO USE BY STATES, NO ACCESS BY TERRORISTS**

- Secure all weapons of mass destruction and all WMD-related material and equipment from theft or other acquisition by terrorists.
- Take nuclear weapons off high-alert status to reduce the risk of launching by error; make deep reductions in strategic nuclear weapons; place all non-strategic nuclear weapons in centralized storage; and withdraw all such weapons from foreign soil.
- Prohibit the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and phase out the production of highly enriched uranium.
- Diminish the role of nuclear weapons by making no-first-use pledges, by giving assurances not to use them against non-nuclear-weapon states and by not developing nuclear weapons for new tasks.

## **3. PREVENT PROLIFERATION: NO NEW WEAPON SYSTEMS, NO NEW POSSESSORS**

- Prohibit any nuclear-weapon tests by bringing the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty into force.
- Revive the fundamental commitments of all NPT parties: the five nuclear weapon states to negotiate towards nuclear disarmament and the non-nuclear weapon states to refrain from developing nuclear weapons.
- Recognize that countries that are not party to the NPT also have a duty to participate in the disarmament process.
- Continue negotiations with Iran and North Korea to achieve their effective and verified rejection of the nuclear-weapon option, while assuring their security and acknowledging the right of all NPT parties to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.
- Explore international arrangements for an assurance of supply of enriched uranium fuel and for the disposal of spent fuel, so as to reduce incentives for national facilities and to diminish proliferation risks.

## **4. WORK TOWARD OUTLAWING ALL WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION ONCE AND FOR ALL**

- Accept the principle that nuclear weapons should be outlawed, as are biological and chemical weapons, and explore the political, legal, technical and procedural options for achieving this within a reasonable time.
- Complete the implementation of existing regional nuclear-weapon-free zones, and work actively to establish zones free of WMDs in other regions, particularly and most urgently in the Middle East.
- Achieve universal compliance with, and effective implementation of, the Chemical Weapons Convention, and speed up the destruction of chemical weapon stocks.
- Achieve universal compliance with, and effective implementation of, the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, and improve cooperation between industry, scientists, and governments to reinforce the ban on the development and production of biological weapons and keep abreast of developments in biotechnology.
- Prevent an arms race in space by prohibiting any stationing or use of weapons in outer space.

*Excerpted with permission from the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission, final report, Weapons of Terror: Freeing the World of Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Arms, Stockholm, Sweden, 1 June 2006. For electronic copies of the complete report, visit [www.wmdcommission.org](http://www.wmdcommission.org).*

# The Battle of the Biolabs

*Claire Gosselin, Joan Ecklein, and Sue Gracey, of Boston WILPF*



Increased funding for biodefense research and development, the international posture of the Bush administration, and the expansion of Bio Security Level (BSL) 4 labs raise suspicions of an illegal bioweapons program. To clarify, BSL 4 labs are the highest level of containment facilities. At these, research takes place on dangerous and/or exotic agents that have a high risk of causing life-threatening disease, a hazard of aerosol-transmitted infection in the lab, or agents that have an unknown risk of transmission.

## Massive Increase in Funds for Biodefense Research and Development

Remember the anthrax mailings after 9/11? They caused major disruptions and a few tragic deaths, but the perpetrator was never caught. Whoever was behind the crimes provided a convenient climate of fear that on Capitol Hill spurred quick passage of increased funding for biodefense. These research initiatives take monies away from genuine public health research and are part of a trend of increasing dependency among our academic institutions on defense funding — expanding the U.S. military/industrial complex to include academia.

The Sunshine Project ([www.sunshine-project.org](http://www.sunshine-project.org)) estimates the United States has spent \$7 billion to \$8 billion a year on both military and civilian biodefense research since late 2001. Military appropriations are largely secret, but rapid expansion is obvious, and totals could well exceed the estimate above.

## 2001: An International Cooperation Travesty

The year 2001 marked seven years of international effort to fix significant loopholes in the original 1972 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC). This Convention does not forbid research for defensive purposes, but it does prohibit stockpiling bioweapons. The inherent problem is that of dual use: any research performed for defense requires creation of the weaponized agent for which the vaccine or countermeasure is then developed.

Taking advantage of this loophole, a number of countries engaged in secret bioweapons programs. Some came to light in the early 1990s. This discovery spurred international efforts for a verification protocol that would promote increased transparency, site inspections, and other enforcement measures. The United States was part of these negotiations, but in November 2001, John Bolton, U.S. Ambassador to the UN, delivered the blow at the Fifth BWC Review Conference: The United States would not support the protocol. The international community was dismayed, and the conference was unable to proceed.

## Enter, Boston University's BSL 4 Lab

The Boston University BSL 4 lab emerged in the context of these developments. Awarded funds by the National Institute of Health (NIH) in 2003, it won final approval in February 2006. The hearing and approval process was marked by a lack of transparency and misleading propaganda about the lab's true purpose.

While claiming to research cures for new and emerging diseases, in reality the focus is on organisms that do not pose public health threats in the United States, among them anthrax, Ebola, and other hemorrhagic viruses. Rather, these are agents



considered of interest for weaponization through genetic manipulation. (David Ozonoff, M.D., of Boston University's School of Public Health, lists reasons to oppose the lab at [www.aceej.org/BiolabWeb/Biolabdocs/Ozonofftopten.pdf](http://www.aceej.org/BiolabWeb/Biolabdocs/Ozonofftopten.pdf)).

When taken as a whole, there is strong reason to suspect that the Boston University (BU) lab and other civilian biodefense labs being planned are part of a secret bioweapons program.

The siting of Boston's biolab in a densely populated part of the South End in Roxbury, has residents afraid of an accidental release of disease agents during transport through city traffic. They also worry about organisms escaping from the lab on human, animal, or insect hosts, by accident or intention. BU claimed the lab was accident-free, but this assertion was belied by the discovery that lab workers had been infected with tularemia at a BU BSL 2 lab in 2004.

## Environmental Injustice and Racism

Through the years, the community was involved in a planning process for the area. These plans were disregarded, and BU was offered the land in question at favorable terms, with support from the city's mayor.

The low-income community of color that lives in the shadow of the lab already bears a heavy burden of environmental hazards. Placing the lab in this location is a blatant example of environmental injustice and racism.

Determined activists, anchored by Roxbury's Safety



Net organization, formed a coalition uniting the city and Greater Boston opponents. Activists were joined by lawyers, politicians, and religious and community leaders, as well as scientists and researchers, including some from Boston University. WILPF Boston has joined the effort, working within and outside the city.

Efforts to stop the lab through the Boston City Council have failed thus far; the four councilors of color oppose the lab, while the nine white councilors support it. However, community residents are plaintiffs in two legal cases, one at the state and another at the federal level. Each challenges the environmental impact reports on the grounds that an inadequate search was made for alternate sites and an insufficient study was done of worst-case scenarios. The state case has ruled on behalf of the resident plaintiffs, a victory, but it is weak as a civil suit. The federal case is in process and includes a challenge to the National Institute of Health on the question of environmental injustice.

Opponents who live outside of Boston are working on petitions to the NIH from cities and towns outside the Boston area. The petitions demand a stop to construction, pending completion of the environmental review and meetings to discuss concerns with NIH. On January 8, 2007, the Cambridge City Council unanimously voted to support a resolution to stop the BSL 4. This resolution has been submitted to the NIH. Statewide, legislation to regulate BSL 3 and 4 labs will be reintroduced this year.

Becoming educated about the threat these labs present is vital. This informational outreach with videos and written materials is critical to building opposition. (The 2005 video production of *Boston, Biological Weapons and the New Arms Race* may be viewed online at [www.brollfilms.com/](http://www.brollfilms.com/). To request a video tape or get more information, send an e-mail message to [sggracey@yahoo.com](mailto:sggracey@yahoo.com).)

Opposition to this lab is building. If the lab in Boston is stopped, it will be the third successful such effort to oppose BSL 4 labs. This significant victory would follow the city of Davis, California, and the University of Washington in Seattle.

## The Sixth UN BWC Review Conference and International Cooperation



This conference, which took place in November and December 2006, managed to hold onto the BWC and decided to focus on getting more signatories to the convention, adding to the current 155. It also improved reporting procedures, among other efforts. Several NGOs presented papers. WILPF's strong presence and commitment were demonstrated by our own Secretary General Susi Snyder's opening day statement, Joan Ecklein's presentation on Boston's experience, and comments by Carol Uner, chair of U.S. WILPF's DISARM! committee.

([www.wilpf.int.ch/disarmament/BWC/index.html](http://www.wilpf.int.ch/disarmament/BWC/index.html))

We believe that civil society has an important role to play in opposing bioweapons development and in promoting international cooperation and law, the basis for true human security. More than a year ago in an op-ed piece in *The Boston Globe*, Nobel Prize winner Bernard Lown and Boston College professor Prasannan Parthasarathi alerted Boston residents to the link between the work planned at Boston University and the development of biological weapons. They succinctly stated a position consistent with WILPF's: "Security from the threat of biological weapons

depends on sound international agreements to ban such weapons, along with enforceable mechanisms for monitoring and compliance."

They posed the questions: "Are we ready to become accomplices in a sordid biological weapons race? Are we willing thereby to tarnish the good name of our city?" These questions await our answers.

*Joan Ecklein is former Boston Branch co chair and a lifelong activist for peace and justice. Sue Gracey is active in the Stop the Bioterror Lab Coalition. Claire Gosselin is Boston Branch co chair. All authors are part of the Boston Branch of WILPF and the DISARM! team, and they work to oppose the biolab.*

## Resources

To learn more about the BWC and current developments visit the following:

- [www.sunshine-project.org](http://www.sunshine-project.org) Watchdog group for bioweapons, biotech and environmental implications. A map of existing and planned facilities is available here.
- [www.gene-watch.org](http://www.gene-watch.org) The Council for Responsible Genetics exposes the bioweapons angle.
- [www.stopthebiolab.org](http://www.stopthebiolab.org) Stop the Biolab Coalition, anchored by Safety Net, has organized community opposition to the lab since 2002. Information and action alerts.
- [www.ace-ej.org/BiolabWeb/biolab.html](http://www.ace-ej.org/BiolabWeb/biolab.html) Alternatives for Community and Environment
- [www.bostonmobilization.org/bioweapons.php](http://www.bostonmobilization.org/bioweapons.php) Boston Mobilization page with good information and links.
- [www.reachingcriticalwill.org/legal/bw/biolindex.html](http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/legal/bw/biolindex.html) WILPF UN project, Reaching Critical Will page on bioweapons. Good overview.

### Other Readings:

- *Biowarfare and Terrorism*, by Francis Boyle
- *Biological Weapons: From the Invention of State-Sponsored Terrorism to Contemporary Terrorism*, by Jeanne Guillemin

# Uranium Mining Banned on Navajo Lands

By Linda Richards

**E**ighty percent of nuclear fuel cycle activities take place on tribal lands. The Navajo Nation (sovereign nation of the Dine' people) in the Four Corners Area of the southwest is where 25 percent of the U.S. supply of uranium is located. Those who profit from nuclearism externalize the risks and costs to the future, in conflict with the values of land-based cultures. In 2005, the Navajo Nation passed the Dine' Resources Protection Act. The Act forbids any future uranium mining and milling in the Nation, until remediation of past-polluted sites is complete. Since 2001, the price of uranium has risen twelve times, from an average of \$7 per pound to \$85 per pound. Countries are enhancing import/export strategies, with exploration for new mines and old mines reopening from Wyoming to China.

Current stockpiles of nuclear waste containing usable material for nuclear power and weapons are so large there is no need for new uranium. The only need is economic self-interest by companies such as Uranium Resources, Inc. The company appealed the Navajo Nation's mining ban, and on January 1, 2006, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission granted permission to mine to Uranium Resources, Inc., of Texas. Several major organizations, including the UN Commission on Science and Technology, are supporting the Navajo Nation's sovereignty.

Despite the pressure, the Navajo Nation continues resistance to further uranium mining or milling on its land, due to past experience with uranium. If mining were to resume, it holds the potential for devastating Navajo culture and water supplies, particularly with the proposed *in situ* mining techniques that contaminate water supplies.

The motto of Eastern Navajo Dine' Against Uranium Mining (ENDAUM, a grassroots group whose thirteen-year resistance to in situ mining is featured in the documentary *Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action: To eii be' iina at e* ("water is life"). Summit participants included citizens from First Nations, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, India, Japan, the United States and Vanuatu, the world's first Nuclear Free Zone. The group is dedicated to a worldwide ban on uranium mining, processing, enrichment, fuel use, weapons testing and deployment, and nuclear waste dumping on Indigenous lands. The ban is justified on the basis of the extensive record of disproportional impacts of

nuclearism on the health, natural resources, and cultures of Indigenous peoples.

We know that no place on Earth has escaped the signature of atmospheric nuclear testing, since radionuclides unknown before 1945 are found in soil, water and polar ice. Indigenous communities have suffered incalculable loss. These include communities along the Pacific Rim, with the devastation from 67 weapons tests in the Marshall Islands, of which some explosions were 750 times larger than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

**In a creation story, the Dine' were given a choice of two yellow powders, and they correctly chose the yellow dust of corn pollen. They were instructed to leave the other yellow powder, uranium, in the soil because to dig it up would bring great evil.**

Testing resulted in devastation of the Enewetak people and complete vaporization of five of the Enewetak atolls. The Enewetak continue to fight for compensation from the U.S. government today. Due to the leadership of Hilda Lini, who attended the Summit, and the people of the tiny Pacific Island of Vanuatu, two-thirds of the earth's land mass now belongs to the UN-recognized Nuclear Weapons Free Zones.

Other U.S. tribes disproportionately affected by the nuclear fuel cycle lived on land taken in 1941 for the then-secret activity of atomic weapons production at Hanford Nuclear Reservation, in Washington State. The Hanford area contained many spiritual and cultural sites, including the Hanford Reach, a necessary site for Chinook salmon spawning. Toxic radioactive groundwater is currently leaching into the Reach. The health effects to Umatilla, Cayuse, Walla Walla, Coeur d'Alene, Colville, Kalispel, Nez Perce, Spokane, and members of the Warm Springs tribe were not examined, despite their subsistence culture, which included diets high in contaminated fish.

The Shoshone lands selected for the Nuclear Test Site were contaminated beyond reclamation, and the threatened "Divine Strake" test will re-disperse radioactive soils across the landscape. "No one has the right to contaminate the air or water, as that destroys all life," said Carrie Dann of the Western Shoshone, "and greed has led to people 'eating their children', which means stealing their future."

The history of the Navajo Nation's experience with uranium is told in *The Navajo People and Uranium Mining* (edited by Brugge, Benally, and Yazzie-Lewis, published by University of New Mexico Press in 2006) and *Memories Come to Us in the Rain and the Wind*, (published by the Navajo Uranium Miner Oral History and Photography Exhibit). The books, both on display at the Summit, share the destabilizing effects of nuclearism on land-based cultural identity and health.

In a Dine' creation story, the Dine' people were given the choice of two yellow powders and correctly chose the yellow dust of corn pollen. They were then instructed to leave the other yellow powder, uranium, in the soil, and never to dig it up. If it were taken from underground, a great evil would come.

Much of the mining in the Navajo Nation took place near Tsoodzil (Mt. Taylor), a sacred site and mountain where a mythological monster roamed. This monster, although slain in traditional stories, gave birth to many small monsters, which the Navajos today equate with the radionucleotides emitted from decaying uranium. The directive to leave uranium in the ground is held in common with the aboriginal Australian stories of the Rainbow Serpent, which sleeps underground to guard over forces beyond human control and should not be awakened to unleash vengeance.

In 1941 uranium was discovered in the Dine' traditional lands, and thirteen million pounds of uranium were mined from 1,200 properties scattered across the Navajo Nation. The mines had no ventilation, and the Dine' and Hopi miners were issued neither health warnings nor protective gear. (The majority of miners were Navajo.) Consequently, they returned to their homes each day from the mines coated with yellow radioactive dust. Early miners gathered radioactive rocks as building materials for their traditional hogans. Many miners and their family members died young of lung cancers and diseases previously unknown to the tribes.

It was successfully argued in 1990 at the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act hearings that the health effects of uranium were purposefully withheld from the Dine' and Hopi workers, and thus, their entitlement to compensation. Unfortunately, only 12 percent of the promised compensation has been distributed because of stringent eligibility criteria, such as birth certificates — nonexistent for many Indigenous workers.

On July 16, 1979, the earthen dam broke at United Nuclear Corporation at Church Rock, New Mexico, releasing a highly acidic and radioactive flood of 94 million gallons of water. The spill spread 1,100 tons of uranium mill tailings over the reservation. Contaminated water flowed into the Rio Puerco River, through the town of Gallup, New Mexico, and westward through the

Arizona towns of Holbrook and Winslow. Much of the contaminants remain untouched today, almost thirty years later.

More than 1,200 contaminated sites still lurk on the lands, invisibly radioactive. The health effects from exposure to uranium include lung cancer, respiratory diseases, soft-tissue cancers as well as leukemia, paralyzing birth defects, Down's syndrome, mental retardation, and spontaneous abortion. (The pernicious health effects on an Indian group are documented in the award-winning documentary *Buddha Weeps in Jadugoda* by Shri Prakesh.)

The Summit included Robert Del Tredici's photography exhibit "The Secret Life of the Atom," a tour of abandoned uranium mines near homes in the Church Rock area, film screenings, and discussions with past and present recipients of the Nuclear Free Future Awards.

Awards were presented to Phil Harrison, Jr., a long-time advocate for compensation for Navajo uranium workers, and Southwest Research and Information Center, a group based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, which has provided nuclear technical assistance and scientific information in the area for 35 years.

Other award recipients were:

- **Sun Xiaodi**, a Chinese uranium miner who was jailed in 2005 for exposing unsafe conditions in mines and was then "disappeared" in retaliation. His award was accepted by Feng Congde with Human Rights in China in New York City.
- **Dr. Gordon Edwards**, a Canadian mathematician and co-founder of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, for his work documenting and explaining the impacts of uranium development in Canada.
- **Wolfgang Scheffler** and **Heike Hoedt**, German scientists and activists who invented low-cost solar reflectors for cooking use in impoverished communities in Africa and Asia.
- **Ed Grothus**, a former Los Alamos National Laboratory nuclear weapons scientist who quit in 1969 to advocate against nuclear proliferation.

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*Linda Richards is a member of Ashland Branch of WILPF and the DISARM! committee, and a graduate student at Southern Oregon University. She would like to thank Southwestern Research and Information Center for contributing information for this article.*

*For more information about how the leadership of Indigenous resistance is restoring the balance of the relationship of humans with the earth, see [www.endaum.org](http://www.endaum.org), [www.sric.org](http://www.sric.org), and [www.wise-uranium.org](http://www.wise-uranium.org).*

# Save The Water: The Invisible Mil-Corp-Water Crisis

By Pat Birnie

**M**ore than 50 percent of U.S. tax dollars are devoured by the military budget, money that could be much better spent improving our domestic water supplies. The United States is responsible for 50 percent of the world's military expenditure. Less than 2 percent of that total each year would provide clean water and good sewage disposal for everyone in the world.

The U.S. military produces more hazardous waste than the five largest international chemical corporations combined. Its mil-corp toxic waste is a serious threat to our country's rivers and ground water supply, even to the entire world's water. In addition to toxic contamination, the military also diverts funds that could be used to heal our own and the world's water woes.

Direct pollution of our domestic water supplies by the military is rampant, many in locations where WILPF members are active.

## NUCLEAR WEAPONS PRODUCTION

In 2004 the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability (ANA) published a comprehensive report of radioactive and toxic contamination at 13 major nuclear weapons production sites in the United States. With hundreds of factories and hundreds of square miles in ten states, these sites seriously affect water supplies to millions of U.S. citizens.

Among the rivers affected are the Columbia River in Oregon and Washington, the Savannah River on the South Carolina-Georgia border, and Tennessee's Clinch River. Also affected are underground aquifers used for drinking water or irrigation. These include the Ogallala Aquifer beneath Texas, Idaho's Snake River Aquifer, and the Great Miami Aquifer in Ohio. A toxic soup of contamination has traveled from Department of Energy (DOE) sites to groundwater via many routes, including unlined landfills, burial pits, injection wells, pipeline breaks, and open dumping. Now DOE is trying to remove records that document contamination from public Internet sites and reading rooms. The ANA report tells of the major failure of the DOE to eliminate contamination of major water supplies, saying the DOE has cut corners and provided inadequate funds for cleanup and even threatened to withhold cleanup funds unless the states permit waste abandonment.

Western WILPF branches have been involved in exposing such dangerous pollution for years. Examples are Portland Branch and Hanford, and Palo Alto

Branch's exposure of Lockheed's release of toxic poison into the water. There is much more work for our branches to do. We urge WILPF members to participate in efforts to expose and end this pollution and initiate remediation.

Now the government plans to build new nuclear weapons production facilities! These new projects would inevitably generate more radioactive and toxic pollution and pull funds from the inadequate remediation process now underway. It has taken citizen activists near all of these existing contaminated sites to blow the whistle on threats to public health and to motivate the DOE to do remediation.

Conservative, independent estimates put the cost of DOE cleanup at more than \$200 billion. Where is this money coming from when we siphon off so much for fighting wars, providing tax cuts for the wealthy, and now building new facilities to produce nuclear weapons? Cleanup of the legacy of U.S. nuclear weapons production is the biggest environmental project in the nation's history. There appears to be little official resolve to actually get the job done.

## DEPLETED URANIUM (DU) AND OUR WATER

The first Gulf War was the first large scale "test" of the new depleted uranium weapon. DU is a waste product from preparation of fuel rods for nuclear reactors and has qualities the military loves: It is heavier than lead so can penetrate targets. It is pyrophoric, so it bursts into flame as it enters its target and is more destructive than ordinary ordnance.

Although its half-life of 4.5 billion years should have been a warning not to use it, military officials are adamant to continue using this wonder weapon. Its health effects appear to be serious, not only to civilian victims, but to our own military personnel. The Veterans Administration admits that more than 250,000 veterans from the first Gulf war have severe health problems, but the VA still will not acknowledge much of the harm is due to DU, as many independent scientists believe.



More studies need to be made to determine the specific effects of DU when consumed in water or inhaled; however, circumstantial evidence is mounting. Much of the harm from DU is caused by inhaling the particles, most of which are not soluble in water. Certain forms of DU are water soluble, according to Dr. Rosalie Bertell, and adversely affect kidneys of victims, causing chemically toxic reactions.

Water-soluble DU can also adversely affect farm animals and produce, as some claim has happened in southern Iraq. For example, date palms concentrate DU in their fruits, making it a risk to eat dates and slashing the value of this important cash crop. In another case, an Iraqi veterinary surgeon claims that a 100 percent fish kill at a fish farm thirty miles south of Baghdad was caused by DU.

Authoritative research is in process to back up these claims. With production facilities at Alliant Tech in Minnesota; the former Starmet production site in Concord, Massachusetts; the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland; the Vieques firing range off the coast of Puerto Rico; as well as Iraq and Kosovo battlegrounds, there are many opportunities for scientists to do definitive studies.

Meanwhile, WILPF recommends the Precautionary Principle, where DU is withdrawn as a weapon until the full tests can be conducted and evaluated.

### **PERCHLORATE AND OUR WATER**

The military also spreads its chemical contamination at hundreds of bases, and much contamination is present at corporation sites that build missiles or other weapons for military contracts. Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, Boeing, Bechtel, and Alliant Tech Systems are just a few of the corporations with a history of toxic spills or parties to EPA Superfund Sites. The toxic stewards include dozens of unpronounceable names of compounds that have specialized uses for the military and can cause contamination by careless use and disposal.

One chemical that causes major health problems is perchlorate, a toxic and explosive component of rocket and missile fuel. It has long-lasting health implications for millions of consumers of Colorado River water, either as drinking water or for irrigating lettuce and other vegetable crops. Vegetation concentrates the poisons, making the edible crops hundreds of times more toxic. Perchlorate impairs the thyroid's ability to take up iodine and produce hormones critical to proper brain development in fetuses and infants.

Lockheed Martin's operations in California, along with other military polluters, have contaminated 300 drinking water sources and farm wells in California and an unknown number of sources in at least fifteen other



To find out more about WILPF's Save the Water campaign, go to [www.wilpf.org/campaigns/water](http://www.wilpf.org/campaigns/water). There you will find resources and ways to get involved.

states. The contaminated Colorado River is the primary source of irrigation water for farms in California, Nevada, and Arizona that grow the majority of lettuce sold in the United States during winter months. The federal government does not have protective regulations for the amount of perchlorate that is "safe" for the most vulnerable of our population, such as babies or older people. In July 2006 the state of Massachusetts established a 2-parts-per-billion (ppb) limit, the first in the nation. The Environmental Working Group estimates that 44 million women are at risk of thyroid deficiency from this rocket fuel chemical, and it recommends a limit of .1 ppb as a safe level. The Colorado River carries 9 ppb at some locations.

### **TRICHLOROETHYLENE (TCE) POLLUTES WATER**

TCE is another toxic chemical that is widespread, having been a widely used de-greaser in military, aeronautical, or industrial applications. The health effects of TCE ingestion (or even showering in the TCE water) include liver and lung damage, impaired fetal development, and impaired heart function. Many of the people near the TCE Superfund site in Tucson, Arizona, still bear the scars of health damage and family disruption due to the Hughes Missile factory (now Raytheon). TCE contamination is widespread at military bases and weapons factories all across the United States.

So what happens when the Pentagon is responsible for more than 1,400 pieces of property at which the groundwater is contaminated with TCE? The military has lobbied for and achieved ever-more exemptions from regulations requiring environmental cleanup. We, the people, must demand accountability, must demand cleanup NOW, and demand a halt to further contamination!

Across the United States at contaminated military sites where remediation efforts have taken place, citizen interveners have been the lifeblood of making things happen. WILPF's role in that effort has been monumental! Are you active in promoting remediation in YOUR area?

*Pat Birnie serves on the WILPF national DISARM! committee leadership team, facilitates the Tucson Branch, and is a member of Tucson Raging Grannies.*

## If Not War, Then Security

By Nancy Price

**W**e all know how words and phrases can hide the real issue and shift the focus of debate, particularly when it comes to political ideology, policy, and actions.

Take, for example, depleted uranium (DU). As Pat Birnie makes clear in her article in this issue, there is nothing “depleted” about this byproduct of the nuclear energy industry. Depleted uranium is reprocessed for use in new weapons, adding to the profits of the war-machine industry.

Or, take the word *surge*, recently coined to describe increasing troop levels, or the description that the United States is “creating democracy” in Iraq, rather than fighting for oil and influence in the Middle East.

Another example, introduced here, uses references to security to avoid debate about war and terrorism, or disarmament and peace. And, *prosperity* is a term used to avoid debate about free trade and the neoliberal corporate trade agenda that trumps national and local sovereignty and harms people and nature.

### SECURITY VS. WAR: PROSPERITY VS. FREE TRADE

With this in mind, note that with little fanfare, the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) was signed in Waco, Texas, on March 23, 2005, by the three leaders of North America — President Bush, Mexico’s President Fox, and Canada’s Prime Minister Martin. This signing was followed by a secret meeting in September 2006 at Banff Springs Hotel in Canada where a group of high-ranking past and present government officials from Canada, the United States, and Mexico met with representatives of corporate business and industry, the military, academic and financial institutions, and think-tank allies to strategize on this new “North American Union,” a new layer of cooperation and agreement on top of the North American Free Trade Agreement of 1994.

Security is needed in the face of the emerging new world order of growing inequality. Prosperity for the privileged few is dependent on military and police strength. Therefore, these leaders plan to fully integrate Canada, the United States, and Mexico in a comprehensive and mutual strategy to secure North America from external threats.

This is necessitated in general by the growing independence and unpredictability of Venezuela, a major

exporter of oil to the United States, coupled with the rise of “indigenous” national governments in Central and South America, turmoil in the Middle East and Central Asia, and the growing political and economic power of China and India. These factors make creation of the Security and Prosperity Partnership imperative to sustaining America’s empire.

More specifically, the United States needs this partnership to counterbalance the emerging independence and power of the European Union, on which we have

depended for mutual cooperation since WW II. Today, the EU competes directly with the United States economically through various free trade agreements. The World Trade Organization and NATO are increasingly less responsive to the United States’ call to arms. As all nations compete for dwindling natural resources — especially precious metals and minerals needed in the electronic-industrial age — prosperity will result from creating an integrated North America with border regions extending across the entire northern Canadian-U.S. and U.S.-Mexican borders. The outer boundaries of this zone would be northern-most Canada and Alaska and southern-most Mexico.

Supercorridors and superports will be constructed to link these new cross-border security and prosperity regions. Plans call for the heartland of all three countries to be bisected by a vast multilane highway system, with six lanes for cars and four lanes for trucks. This would be paralleled by railroad lines and utility pipelines to export oil, natural gas, and water from production sites to manufacturing and distribution centers. These border regions would have benign-sounding names, such as “Atlantica” for northeastern Canada, New England, and northern New York.

**Phrases can hide the real issue. Take, for example, depleted uranium. There is nothing “depleted” about this byproduct of the nuclear energy industry. Depleted uranium is reprocessed for use in new weapons, adding to the profits of the war-machine industry.**

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## Ellen Barfield arrested at Alliant Tech Systems



Ellen Barfield, WILPF Board member and co-chair of the DISARM! committee, was among more than seventy people

arrested at Alliant Tech Systems in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in October 2006. Alliant is on WILPF's list of the Dirty Dozen weapons manufacturers. The



action was part of events that took place nationwide during Keep Space for Peace week.

### ➤ IF NOT WAR

*from previous page*

Water could be piped or delivered by tanker truck from water-rich territories of Canada, the northern United States, and jungles of southern Mexico to water-starved regions of central and southern United States, and central and northern Mexico. This could relieve, for example, drought conditions for agriculture, needs of water-hungry industries, and extreme conditions of water deprivation for such population centers as Mexico City.

Once bulk water crosses national boundaries by tanker truck or pipeline, it falls under the mandates of NAFTA. Attempts to curtail or halt its delivery because conditions change at the source could trigger a NAFTA trade dispute.

The Atlantica supercorridor would run from a superport in Nova Scotia down through Maine and across New Hampshire and upstate New York. It is typical in geographic scope of all other cross-border regions. The Trans-Texas Corridor is furthest along in planning, the toll road to be built and owned by a Spanish corporation, with government subsidies.

View and read a related PowerPoint presentation, Threats to Our Water: NAFTA, SPP, Super-Corridors, Atlantica . . . No Way! It's available at [www.sierra-club.ca/national/postings/water-threats/nafta.pdf](http://www.sierra-club.ca/national/postings/water-threats/nafta.pdf).

There is a movement to stop the Security and Prosperity Partnership in its tracks: in Eastern Canada it is "Atlantica, No Way;" and in Texas, it is "Corridor Watch" against the Trans-Texas Corridor.

Such integration would extend through Central America if Plan Puebla Panama is enacted. It is a multi-billion dollar development plan in progress to link the nine southern states of Mexico (Puebla and points south) with all of Central America, with a proposed new canal in Nicaragua to create a colossal free trade zone. If plans to hire Mexican truck drivers at cheap wages come to fruition, supertankers and thousands upon thousands of trucks will move goods for the U.S. consumer. After all, as George Bush, Sr., said at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, "We in the U.S. have a right to our life style." Such a plan, which uses non-renewable energy for transportation and generates many tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, will certainly affect the American lifestyle as we know it through global warming.

Now it is easier to understand the Zapatistas' struggle, beginning just after the signing of NAFTA in 1994, to protect their Lacandón jungle resources in southern Mexico from corporate profiteering and destruction. The protests by a broad spectrum of the Mexican people about the conservative victory in the presidential election in fall 2006 take on a new meaning.

What will it take for the people of the United States, once they learn more about this project, to mobilize on a scale similar to the Zapatistas to stop the military/industrial complex from robbing us of our last vestiges of a democracy and plundering our common natural resources?

*Nancy Price is a member of WILPF's Save the Water Campaign leadership team.*

# Trident Submarine

## Deadliest Weapon in the Arsenal

By Marge Van Cleef



In 1979 the first Trident Ohio class submarine was launched in Groton, Connecticut. That is the home of Electric Boat, the division of General Dynamics Corporation where 24,000 workers built eighteen Tridents at a cost of \$1.9 billion each (without warheads). The price to be paid by the workers was exposure to radiated water, harsh working conditions, and job uncertainty when the U.S. Navy stopped ordering Tridents. Antiwar activists started protesting at Electric Boat in the 1960s because Poseidon submarines were built there.

In 1979, thousands of protesters stood outside the gates and continued their watch each time a new Trident, each one named for a different state, was launched. And every Tuesday morning, for two-and-one-half years, a group of people showed up at the gates at 6:00 a.m. to greet workers when shifts changed and hand out leaflets. Kings Bay, Georgia, and Bremerton, Washington, also became Trident bases. At each location, strong peace communities held weekly vigils and large demonstrations to educate the public and protest any future use of this weapon of mass destruction.

The eighteen submarines each carry 24 missiles, either the Trident I/C-4 or Trident II/D-5. Each missile carries an average of five nuclear warheads that can be launched in less than one minute and travel 7,000 miles. These missiles compose 50 percent of all U.S. strategic warheads.

As a result of the Pentagon's 2002 Nuclear Posture Review, the U.S. strategic nuclear force structure will be adjusted to fourteen Trident submarines, all carrying D-5 missiles. The Pentagon's accelerated two-year plan calls for using two of the missiles as conventional weapons on each Trident. Strategists at the Pentagon are drawing up plans for devastating bombing raids backed by submarine-launched ballistic missile attacks against Iran's nuclear sites as a "last resort" to block Teheran's efforts to develop an atomic bomb. (Philip Sherwell in Washington, D.C., for the Telegraph Group Limited, 12/2/06)

It thus becomes clear why so many thousands of people have protested, been arrested, and some — Plowshares activists in particular — served lengthy jail sentences in an effort to stop this "machine of death," as it is called. The danger that Trident will be used is still very real, whether it be against North Korea, Iran, or any nation deemed an enemy in the "war on terror."

*Marge Van Cleef is former Program Chair of WILPF U.S. Section, an activist opposing war in Iraq, and a part time adjunct professor at Cabrini College, St. David, Pennsylvania.*

## Three convicted of disorderly conduct in Bangor Trident case

Shirley Morrison, 84-year-old WILPF member and Raging Granny, was one of three convicted on January 26 of disorderly conduct. The charge stemmed from a demonstration at the Polaris nuclear submarine base in Bangor, Washington, in which traffic was blocked briefly. It was the first such conviction in twenty years. The defendants may appeal and reargue their case.

In this case, a judge for the first time allowed testimony on international law and the Nuremberg Principles. David Hall, of Physicians for Social Responsibility, testified that the Trident nuclear submarines violate Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which requires nuclear-armed nations to work toward disarmament. He called Trident "America's doomsday machine."

John Burroughs, director of the Lawyers Committee on Nuclear weapons, said the Nuremberg Principles, drafted to try Nazi war criminals, forbid planning and preparation for a war of aggression. The Principles established that citizens have the right — indeed, the duty — to stop their government from planning a war of aggression. A decision by the World Court in 1996 declared that nuclear weapons are illegal.

Mr. Stowell, the defense attorney, said the defendants studied the Hague Convention, Geneva Convention, and

opinions by the International Court of Justice that forbid use of indiscriminate killing in warfare. Defendants said Bangor's Trident subs, which carry D-5 missiles with more than 144 nuclear warheads, violate both the Nuremberg Principles and international human rights law banning indiscriminate warfare.

The guilty verdict surprised all involved. Three jurors spoke afterward with the defendants and said they had too little knowledge about international law to understand its relevance.

On Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, demonstrators again called for abolition of nuclear weapons at the Polaris submarine base, as they have for thirty years. Twelve persons were arrested for blocking traffic.

The Trident submarine base at Bangor has the largest stockpile of nuclear warheads in the United States. It is the last active nuclear weapons depot on the West Coast and is the place of deployment for approximately 1,360 nuclear warheads. Another 1,000 warheads are stored on the base in inactive reserve. The base is located twenty miles from Seattle, putting that city in jeopardy in the event of war or a terrorist attack. ❖

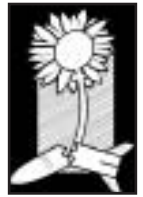


**Left to right: David Hall, Shirley Morrison, codefendants Carol Ann Barrows and Brian Watson, defense attorney Stowell, and John Burroughs.**



# DISARM! Takes on Cluster Bombs

Nancy Wrenn



During the brief but intense warfare between Israel and Lebanon from July 12 to August 14, 2006, approximately 1,200 Lebanese civilians were killed, one third of whom were children. One-quarter of the country's population, or approximately one million Lebanese, and an estimated 500,000 Israelis were displaced. What is left is one of the greatest environmental, economic, and humanitarian disasters in Lebanon's history.

Israel violated the U.S. Arms Export Control Act, which limits the use of U.S. weapons to internal policing and legitimate self-defense.

However, instead of stopping the flow of weapons, the United States rushed jet fuel and satellite- and laser-guided bombs to Israel.

In response, a coalition of concerned citizens in Boston, including WILPF members, formed around this new Middle East crisis. One goal was to call on elected representatives to re-examine U.S. policy toward the Middle East and U.S. financial support to Israel. In particular, the coalition asked that U.S. aid be provided to Lebanon to dismantle the unexploded U.S.-made cluster bombs dropped in southern Lebanon. As of the end of September, the Lebanese army and UN Peacekeepers had cleared approximately 40,000 cluster bombs.

However, after the cease-fire, Israel continued to launch U.S.-made cluster bombs into Lebanon. At least one million of these bombs are believed to remain in the area, posing grave danger.

WILPF members from the Boston area and western Massachusetts (Francis Crowe, age 87, among them) joined with more than seventy other peace activists on October 5,

2006, to demonstrate against the manufacture of cluster bombs at the Textron plant in Wilmington, Massachusetts. (Although cluster bombs are not manufactured in Massachusetts, Textron is a multi-industry company with a portfolio of familiar brands, such as Bell Helicopter, Cessna Aircraft and Greenlee, among others.) Textron is currently number 190 on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies. It calls itself an "industry leader in motion control systems and components for commercial and military aircraft, helicopters, precision

guided missiles and munitions, unmanned air vehicles, marine craft, and armored vehicles."

One cluster bomb costs U.S. taxpayers \$360,000. Each of the forty warheads on each bomb can scan an area of thirty acres by using infrared and laser sensors until it either finds a target or falls to the ground. In that case it will detonate itself so as to leave a "clean" battlefield. The cluster bomb is considered to be highly effective against groups of vehicles such as tanks.

These bombs were first deployed but not used during Operation Allied Forces when the United States and NATO entered the Kosovo war. Sensor-fuzed weapons were first fired in combat during the 2003 invasion of Iraq. In post-war Kosovo, unexploded cluster bomblets caused more civilian deaths than landmines.

Some of the million bomblets fired by Israeli artillery during the last three days of the conflict killed four people every day in southern Lebanon and wounded many more. The

## Cluster Bombs in Lebanon

By Frida Berrigan

Being the world's sole superpower, largest weapons supplier, and biggest foreign humanitarian donor is no cakewalk. One day you are selling cluster bombs to Israel. Another day you're doling out aid to help Lebanon clean up cluster bombs that did not detonate. What happened on the days in between? Your cluster bomb customer used up most of his supply in shelling Lebanon.

The United States has put together a package of postwar aid for Lebanon totaling \$230 million, including a \$420,000 grant for the Mine Advisory Group so it can "quickly expand" its landmine and unexploded ordnance humanitarian clearing program to "help remove the newest explosive remnants of war" — most of which came from the United States.

An Israeli military spokesman insists that "all of the weapons and munitions used by the IDF (Israeli Defense Forces) are legal under international law, and their use conforms to international standards." But, the U.S. State Department is investigating Israel's use of American-made cluster bombs during the war in Lebanon — particularly looking at whether or not Israel broke a secret agreement with the United States not to use cluster bombs against civilians. This secret agreement seems to have created a loophole to the Arms Export Control Act, which does not allow the United States to sell

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## ► DISARM! & CLUSTER BOMBS

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casualty figures were expected to rise sharply in the fall when villagers began the harvest, picking olives from trees whose leaves and branches hide bombs that explode at the smallest movement. Lebanon's farmers are caught in a deadly dilemma: to risk harvesting the olives on which they depend or to leave the produce to rot in the fields.

In a September 27, 2006, article in *The New York Times*, Arjun Jain, of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said in Beirut that 200,000 Lebanese displaced by the Israel-Hezbollah war were delayed from returning home because of the unexploded bomblets. "Displacement is going to continue for many months to come," he said.

Some Israeli officers have protested the use of cluster bombs against civilian targets in Lebanon. A commander in the multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS) unit told the Israeli daily newspaper *Haaretz* that the army had fired 1,800 cluster rockets, spraying 1.2 million bomblets on houses and fields. "In Lebanon, we covered entire villages with cluster bombs," he said. "What we did there was crazy and monstrous." What

makes the cluster bombs so dangerous is that 30 percent of the bomblets do not detonate on impact. They can lie for years — often difficult to see because of their small size — on roofs, in gardens, in trees, beside roads, or in rubbish — waiting to explode when disturbed.

Although covered by the general rules of international humanitarian law, cluster munitions are not covered by a specific international legal instrument. Norway and other countries have committed to an international ban on cluster munitions. A Norwegian-organized conference, to which forty governments were invited, was held in Oslo on February 20-23, 2007, to determine a platform for working toward a convention or agreement. Parallel NGO activities were organized by the International Cluster Munitions Committee and its Norwegian branch, Norwegian Peoples' Aid, the primary Norwegian mine-clearing organization.

Another conference is planned for September 2007 in Oslo. WILPF is invited and expects to participate.

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*Nancy Wrenn is retired from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and now works on global causes, which include WILPF's disarmament study group, the Coalition for a Strong UN, and the Boston area Nonviolent Peaceforce.*

## ► LEBANON

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weapons to countries involved in aggression.

An amendment that would have required the United States and countries to which it sells weapons to avoid using cluster bombs in or near civilian areas, offered by Senators Dianne Feinstein and Patrick Leahy on September 8, was voted down 70 to 30. And, at the end of January, the State Department announced that Israel may have violated the terms of its agreements with the United States by firing U.S.-supplied cluster munitions into southern Lebanon, but it did not levy sanctions against its close ally. In February, the senators resubmitted a new version of the bill that would restrict federal funds for the use, sale, or transfer of cluster bombs unless specified that they will be used only against clearly defined military targets and not in civilian areas. Senators Bernard Sanders (I-VT) and Barbara Mikulski

(D-MD) joined as cosponsors.

Jan Egeland, the UN Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, was decidedly undiplomatic in his assessment: "What is shocking and (I would say to me) completely immoral is that 90 percent of the cluster bomb strikes occurred in the last 72 hours of the conflict, when we knew there would be a resolution." During those three days, Israel dumped an estimated 1.2 million bomblets throughout Lebanon, a country smaller than Connecticut. These bombs have a

failure rate of up to 30 percent, which means that one of every three bombs may not immediately detonate — lying in wait for children, trucks, livestock, and just about whomever or whatever else might set it off.

The peace agreements were all signed by August 14, 2006, but the cluster bombs keep on killing. According to the UN Mine Action Coordination Center, since

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**At the end of January, the State Department announced that Israel may have violated the terms of its agreements with the United States by firing U.S.-supplied cluster munitions into southern Lebanon, but it did not levy sanctions against its close ally.**

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## ► LEBANON

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the war ended, unexploded ordnance (or UXOs, in the lingo) have killed twelve and wounded 39. Two of the dead and eleven of the wounded were children.

A reporter with *The Seattle Times* talked to one shepherd injured by a cluster bomb. “Lying in the intensive care unit of a hospital in Tyre with a broken and burned leg, 22-year-old shepherd Mohammed Hassan was recovering from stepping on a bomblet.” He told the reporter, “All I remember is being catapulted several meters into the air.” The bomblet was near a path between his family’s farm and the chicken house where he had gone to fetch eggs. “Just before fainting, I felt down to my leg and thought, thank God, it’s still there.” His other foot was also injured, as were both of his hands.

At least two of the cluster weapons and launch systems used by Israel are made by U.S. companies. Human Rights Watch discovered remnants of the M483A1, 155mm artillery projectiles that have 88 U.S.-manufactured M42 and M46 submunitions. Human Rights Watch also found evidence of the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS), manufactured by Lockheed Martin and equipped with M26 rockets. Each MLRS can fire up to twelve rockets at once, and each rocket contains 644 M77 submunitions.

A few U.S. manufacturers of cluster weapons and their products are described below.

### **Aerojet**

SADARM 155mm DPICM (sense-and-destroy armor): A 155 mm artillery projectile can deliver two submunitions, while one of the MLRS rockets can deliver six. The munition can also be fired from aircraft.

### **Raytheon**

JSOW (Joint Standoff Weapon): A precision-guided weapon developed by the United States and its allies carrying submunitions or bomblets. The guidance system allows the pilot to launch the weapon from a safe distance.

## RESOURCES

Human Rights Watch, Overview of the Dirty Dozen Cluster Munitions

<http://hrw.org/arms/pdfs/munitionChart0806.pdf>

“Time to Take Stock: The U.S. Cluster Munitions Inventory and the FY 2006 Department of Defense Budget,” Human Rights Watch briefing paper, July 2005

<http://hrw.org/backgrounders/arms/cluster0705/>

Cluster Munition Coalition

<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/>



**Linde Belle, director of the Jane Addams Peace Association, works at Addams’ desk in the WILPF office in Geneva, Switzerland.**

### **Textron**

Sensor-Fuzed Weapon (CBU 97/B): An air-launched anti-armor weapon system, each dispenser contains ten BLU-108/B submunitions. Each submunition carries four SKEET anti-armor warheads.

Wide Area Munitions (WAM) can be placed by hand, by ground vehicles, rocket, or aircraft.

Companies are making and trying to market new cluster weapons all the time. In vivid military jargon, Textron’s promotional flier describes the CLAW (Clean Lightweight Area Weapon) as “the next generation smart-soft target munition.” For those not familiar with the jargon, a soft target is a person. Textron boasts that a “single 64-pound munition has the footprint and effectiveness of a 1,000-pound legacy cluster bomb.”

According to Human Rights Watch, other manufacturers of cluster weapons and components include General Dynamics, L-3 Communications, Lockheed Martin, and Northrop Grumman.

*Frida Berrigan is a Senior Research Associate at the World Policy Institute’s Arms Trade Resource Center. Please visit [www.worldpolicy.org/projects/arms](http://www.worldpolicy.org/projects/arms) for more information.*

# WILPF at the Social Forum in Nairobi 2007

By Patricia Willis

The seventh edition of the World Social Forum (WSF), was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on January 20-25, 2007, and was the first to be held on the African continent. Many regional social forums and the WSF 2006 held in Bamako, Mali, helped pave the way for this massive organizing event.

Taking the WSF to Nairobi was an important step in centralizing African experiences and African cultures for WSF delegates. By going to Kenya, the WSF officially recognized destruction of the African continent by neoliberalism and militarism, as well as the struggles, those being won and those lost, by African peoples to shed yet another version of western colonialism. This time, the colonialism takes the shape of structural adjustment policies, International Monetary Fund loans with exorbitant rates and heinous conditions, and debts that cannot, and should not, ever be paid.

WILPF was part of the Human Rights-Human Dignity Caucus and its Gender Equity Coalition. WILPF participants joined this ad hoc group to create alliances with other organizations working on gender and peace issues and to strengthen our efforts in sponsoring a successful workshop on UN Security Council Resolution 1325, Women, Peace and Security. Other member organizations were International Women's Tribune Centre, 1000 PeaceWomen Across the Globe, Coalition for Peace in Africa, and two others.

WILPF organized a workshop, "Implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1325 in Non-conflict Zone Countries." Speakers were Teresa Ulloa Ziaurriz of Mexico, Cora Weiss of the United States, Edel Havin Beukes and Liss Schanke from Norway, with this writer as facilitator. We were especially pleased to have both Teresa and Cora, who are amongst the 1000 PeaceWomen, as speakers.

We asked the questions: "How can nonconflict zone countries use UN SCR 1325? How can other countries, such as the United States, which spreads conflict but has none on its own soil, implement 1325?"

Edel summarized the approach Norway, which has led the way for nonconflict zone countries, in developing for domestic use such as military training for its peacekeeping forces. Liss described efforts underway in India that were developed in coordination with Norway, focusing on getting women who have received 1325 training elected to local government positions. This is an extraordinarily successful effort, helping produce one of the highest levels of women's political participation in the world. Forty-six per-

cent of all elected officials in India are women, far surpassing the percentage in the United States.

Cora spoke about her efforts to teach the principles of UN SCR 1325 to political office holders and U.S. officials in Washington, D.C. Teresa spoke passionately about her work in using 1325 in Mexico on issues of rape and other forms of violence against women, as well as on land ownership by women.

A second workshop, "Implementing UN SCR 1325 in Conflict Zones," was organized by WILPF, UNIFEM, and 1000

PeaceWomen Across the Globe. Milkah Kahuna of WILPF-UN gave background information on what 1325 is and how it has and can be used. Together with the other workshop, we hosted between fifty and 100 people, many of whom gave testimonies about their use of 1325 and their local peace work. Both workshops were highly interactive with most of the three-hour time periods allocated to testimony and commentary by audience delegates.

Culminating our peace and gender workshops was "Women Speak Out: Peace in 2007," commonly known as "the speakout." This ended with a beautiful song led and taught to us by our Coalition for Peace in Africa sisters. Here are the words:

All around the nations,  
All around the world,  
Women are longing to be free.  
No longer in the shadows,  
Forced to stay behind, but  
Hand-in-hand in true equality.

So sing a song for women everywhere.  
Let it ring around the world and  
Never, never cease.  
So sing a song for women everywhere —  
Equality, justice, development, and peace.



The World Social Forum (WSF), first held in 2001, is now an important annual venue for hundreds of thousands of activists engaged in struggles against oppressive policies and practices in their home countries and abroad. The WSF has spawned hundreds of social forums around the world, with regional events such as the Social Forum of the Americas, the African Social Forum, the European Social Forum, the Asian Social Forum, and local social forums that are country-specific, such as the one in the United States this June.

# WILPF and the U.S. Social Forum

By Patricia Willis

The first U.S. Social Forum will take place in Atlanta, Georgia, on June 27-July 1, 2007. This will be a country-specific local Social Forum, and will be held under the auspices of the World Social Forum (WSF) Governing Council and the WSF Charter of Principles.

The U.S. has lagged behind in Social Forum planning due to the conservative political atmosphere in this country. Organizers of this event decided that the time is now ripe for the United States. This Forum is expected to draw at least 20,000 participants.

The first one held in the United States took place in Boston in 2004. WILPF-Boston was heavily involved in organizing events for it, in particular a tribunal on violence against women. Boston Branch's experience was a major impetus behind seeing WILPF-U.S. participate in the upcoming Social Forum in Atlanta.

WILPF as a whole has a great deal of experience in sponsoring major events at these occasions. WILPF-International has participated in almost all World Social Forums to date, and many WILPF country sections have organized events for regional Social Forums. WILPF's status as a leader in peace building around the world places it in a unique position for organizing events. Our large grassroots membership base in the United States creates potential for a substantial delegation at Atlanta this year.

WILPF-U.S. is a sponsor of the U.S. Social Forum, which is a big part of WILPF's 2007 program. WILPF's Advancing Human Rights (AHR) and Women Challenging U.S. Policy in the Middle East (WCUSP) have teamed up to present at least one workshop on UN SCR 1325.

AHR is also sponsoring a workshop on UN shadow reporting with WILPF's Gillian Gilhool and American Friends Service Committee Criminal Justice Director Tonya McClary as speakers. Carol Urner, chair of DISARM!, reports that "an avalanche of DISARM! participants" are planning events, such as workshops on



THE UNITED STATES  
SOCIAL FORUM

nuclear, space, bioweapons, space issues, Mil-corp, and war profiteers.

WILPF has reserved a block of thirty hotel rooms at a hotel three blocks from the main Social Forum site, with a substantial discount off the regular room rate. This will include a hot or cold complimentary breakfast, free cocktails on Monday through Thursday, meeting rooms, use of the pool, and

other amenities. All rooms are double occupancy with two queen beds, and two people can be added for \$10 each. The basic room rate is \$79, plus 15 percent tax.

WILPF members are already signing up to reserve rooms and name their roommates. When our block of rooms is filled, other rooms may be made available to us at a nearby hotel that the USSF Women's Working Group has reserved. Rooms will probably go fairly quickly once committees and campaigns spread the word. For information on reservations, e-mail me at the address below.

It is hoped that the U.S. Social Forum will help the United States initiate a new era of human rights dialogue and activism. A wide range of progressive organizations

will participate, all with the common goal of building a better world, based on human rights ideals and practices. WILPF, as a leader in the human rights arena, is looking toward this event as a chance to make

progress toward these goals. It will also be a wonderful opportunity for WILPFers from across the United States to see friends and acquaintances, meet others for the first time, and build our sisterhood within WILPF and with other like-minded organizations.

If you have any questions or suggestions, contact me at the below e-mail address or the WILPF-U.S. office. It is your campaigns and committees that will ensure WILPF's participation in the U.S. Social Forum will have a major impact.

Patricia Willis, WILPF Social Forum Focal Point,  
e mail: pwill06@coastalnet.com.

## Water Workshops at the U.S. Social Forum

- **Our Bodies Polluted Without Our Consent**
- **Women, Water, and War**
- **Water Bill of Rights**
- **Street Theater for the Bottled Water Campaigns**

***This Forum is expected to draw at least 20,000 participants. Make your reservations now.***



## Remembering Minnie Belle Hoch

**M**innie Belle Hoch lived her life as a world citizen, working as a librarian, peace activist, world traveler, feminist, and indefatigable fighter for economic and social justice for all. She died at the age of 93 on January 1, 2007, in Baltimore, Maryland.

She was active in WILPF for more than 35 years. In the 1980s, she served on the U.S. Section National Board of WILPF, after participating in a 16-member delegation to the Middle East in 1978. As a member of the Board, Mrs. Hoch became part of the Middle East Committee and worked on disarmament issues. She served as chair of the Baltimore Branch for many years and was well known throughout the Baltimore community for her work in civil rights, disarmament, and the Middle East. She was a lifelong member of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on September 30, 1913, to Nathan and Anna Belle, she was the second of three children. Her parents were immigrants from czarist Russia and owned a small store in the Hill District of Pittsburgh. Minnie Belle received undergraduate degrees from the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Library School and went on to earn a Master of Science from Columbia University in 1941, where she wrote about public library practices in the exclusion and restriction of reading materials.

During World War II, she worked in Washington, D.C., for the Office of Emergency Management and for the Australian War Supplies Procurement Office. In 1946 she coauthored *Australia the New Customer* with Howard Daniel. She moved to New York in 1947 with her husband Myron L. Hoch when he returned to teach economics at City College. Her only child Susan was born in 1948. Myron was fired in 1953 for taking the Fifth Amendment, refusing to name names at a House UnAmerican Activities (HUAC) hearing, and the family moved to Baltimore.

There, she worked as librarian at Catonsville Junior High and Beth Tfiloh Day School and during many summers as librarian at Camp Louise in Cascade, Maryland. In 1961 she joined the Community College of Maryland and became head librarian, a position she held until her retirement in 1983.

In addition to serving on the WILPF U.S. Section Board during her long-time membership, she worked on various committees and in a variety of offices. While on sabbatical in 1980, she lived in Geneva and worked at the WILPF headquarters. Traveling widely in her retirement years, she met with women's groups and peace activists in Russia, Syria, Israel, Lebanon, China, Japan, Europe, Cuba, and Kenya. She loved the theater, gardening, and French literature.

Minnie Belle Hoch was the loving wife of the late Myron L. Hoch, beloved mother to Susan Hoch, and mother-in-law to Jerrold Schwaber of Haddonfield, New Jersey. She was a devoted grandmother to Jason and Jeff Schwaber, sister to Jack Belle, sister-in-law to Regina Belle and Edith Cohen, and cherished aunt to Deborah Belle, Richard Belle, Jane Ehrlich, Jerrold Cohen, and Nancy Deutsch. What's more, she was a mentor and friend to many.

There will be a memorial service on May 5 at 1 p.m. in Haebler Chapel at Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland. Her body was donated to science. The family suggests that contributions in her memory may be sent to the Minnie Hoch Scholarship Fund, c/o Linda Belle, Executive Director, Jane Addams Peace Association, 777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017. This fund, established in her honor, assists Goucher College's WILPF chapter and peace studies. ❖

### KEEP SPACE FOR PEACE WEEK OCTOBER 1-8, 2006

Many branches — including **Palm Beach, St. Louis, New York Metro, Delaware County, and Portland** — participated in Keep Space for Peace Week with vigils and demonstrations. **Los Angeles, Monterey County, and Santa Cruz** attended the October 7 Protest for Peace at Vandenberg Air Force Base. **Tucson** held a Keep Space for Peace vegetarian supper, featuring a screening of *Weaponization of Space*. Tucson's Raging Grannies performed at protests at Raytheon Missiles Corp. **Minnesota Metro** participated in a "Social Evening for Disarmament," with leaders of WILPF's DISARM! committee. Ellen Barfield, MacGregor Eddy, and Carol Reilly Urner gave workshops at the Stopping the Merchants of Death Conference.

# U.S. 'Aid' or Pork Barrel for Corporations?

By Odile Hugonot Haber

The concept of U.S. aid reminds me of a story I learned at an ecology conference on breast cancer and the environment, which is symbolic of much of what is wrong in our for-profit culture. A factory was manufacturing a plastic product, of which dioxin was a byproduct. Eventually the dioxin infiltrated the local water aquifer, causing women to get cancer. The same corporation also produced medication for breast cancer. Therefore, it was both causing the disease and selling the remedy, a revolving door of cause, effect, and profit.

U.S. aid likewise is a double-edged sword. On the one hand, it helps poor people around the world. On the other, it protects U.S. economic interests and facilitates arm sales. The U.S. government's military programs often provide arms that kill and maim civilians, and then USAID furnishes the remedies, such as technology to overcome the destruction that this "arms bonanza" brings upon the world. With an annual budget of \$14 billion, USAID works in more than ten countries.

The U.S. State Department says that U.S. money should be used to empower developing countries by strengthening security, consolidating democracy, and increasing trade. While this is a worthy ideal, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice says more of our aid budget should be used to defeat terrorism.

A terrorist is defined as one who uses terror tactics for political objectives. A terrorist organization is largely defined as targeting civilian enemies in response to occupation of its country by foreign forces. The U.S. government puts such groups on its list of terrorist organizations. The French resistance and the first Israeli underground organizations were labeled "terrorists" by Nazi occupying forces and the British, in turn. Now the United States is aiding Fattah — an organization the United States defined as "terrorist" not so long ago — by giving Fattah weapons to fight Hamas — the "terrorist" of the hour. Yet the right of resistance is recognized by the Geneva Conventions of the United Nations.

Often, fighting terrorism means to supply arms to a political faction within a country so it can fight against the terrorists. However, consider that many countries themselves no longer abide by treaties that protect civilian populations in war; rather, they terrorize civilians. The November 2006 report of the Congressional Research Service states that in 2005, "the United States led in arms transfer agreements worldwide, making nearly \$11.6 billion in such deliveries." In other words, what means money in the bank for Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, and other defense transfer companies means misery for people

and environments where weapons are shipped.

"An Administrator of USAID should be committed to the most effective and far-reaching responses to such international challenges, rather than championing corporate interests and profits," said Ann Louise Colgan, Director for Policy Analysis and Communication at Africa Action. She spoke in reference to Ambassador Tobias, who was accused of favoring drug corporations as he promoted funding for AIDS relief.

The same is true for arms sales versus negotiated and sustainable development. U.S. policies favor arms corporations at the expense of development of infrastructures that would benefit the people of the world. This picture is particularly clear in the case of Israel and Palestine. For example, when the Palestinians elected Hamas in March 2006 as the absolute majority of the Palestinian Legislative Council, the U.S. Administration suspended its foreign assistance program in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. U.S. policymakers stated that foreign aid would not resume until Hamas — designated by the U.S. State Department to be a foreign terrorist organization — recognizes Israel and renounces the use of terrorist violence. One might ask, what constitutes U.S. aid to the Palestinian Authority?

"Since the signing of the Oslo Accords in 1993, the U.S. government has committed more than \$1.8 billion in economic assistance to the Palestinians. Approximately 80 percent of U.S. funding for the Palestinians has been channeled through USAID contractors and 20 percent through private voluntary organizations," states a Congressional report on Palestinian aid. The day of July 16, 2004, was the first time the United States gave the Palestinian Authority more than \$20 million, at a time when Yassar Arafat was chairman. This money was part of a multi-million dollar package to Palestinian communities for repairing and maintaining roads, public buildings, and power, water and sewage lines damaged in years of fighting with Israel. During early January 2007, it was reported that the United States would give \$86 million to Mahmoud Abbas, president of the Palestinian Authority and leading politician in Fattah. The suspicion is that this gift is meant to supply Fattah with guns and money, and Fattah will then start a civil war with Hamas.

Jibril Rajoub, the former head of the West Bank Preventive Security Service, while defending Fattah, also observed in *The New York Times*, "Israel has done everything to hurt the Palestinian Authority and sabotaged the chances to negotiate and reach an agreement. Hamas has

*Continued on page 25* ➤



# Peace Education

## Recycle, Reuse, Rebuild

### Through WILPF's Jane Addams Peace Association

#### Giving comes first

The funds held by the Jane Addams Peace Association (JAPA) that are earmarked for use by WILPF members and branches come to us through members just like you.

- When your branch requests funds for Children's Peace Projects, the money comes to you from the legacy left to JAPA in the early 1990s by Doris Jones of Palo Alto Branch. Thank you, Doris.
- When San Francisco Branch needed additional money for the Saturday night program at WILPF's 2005 Congress, it was the Joan Patchen Fund (administered by Cape Cod Branch) that supplied the financial support. Thank you, Joan.
- Kay Camp's family recently set up the Kay Camp International Travel Fund with support from her Delco Branch in memory and honor of Kay's long history of international peace work. Recognizing her love of travel and commitment to nonviolence, this new fund will help young WILPF women (under 35) from the United States and abroad to attend international meetings for decades to come. Thank you to Kay and her family.
- We all recognize conflict resolution as an ongoing priority. A fund in the name of Winifred Woodmansee supports conflict resolution within WILPF. This recently enabled a successful conflict resolution session between our national office and a local branch and then helped fund a healing weekend retreat for one of our campaigns. Thank you to Winifred and her family.
- The Minnie Hoch Scholarship Fund, recently established at JAPA in her honor, assists Goucher College's WILPF Chapter and peace studies.  
*See page 22 for Minnie Belle Hoch's obituary.*

#### Planned Giving Charitable IRA Rollover in 2007

Now might be the perfect time for you to donate to WILPF in a way that reflects your particular interests. Under the Pension Protection Act of 2006, if you are 70.5 years or older, you may make a TAX-FREE gift of up to \$100,000 from your IRA in 2007 to the Jane Addams Peace Association. Please call or write Linda Belle at the JAPA office for details.

#### Now to the Getting . . .

- Joan Patchen was a wild and woolly member of Cape Cod Branch. A wise and loving woman, actress, mother, artist, teacher, witch, and inspiring presence, Joan is sorely missed by her family and the branch. The Joan Patchen Fund set up in her memory supports projects by WILPF branches or members who incorporate the arts as a means of promoting peace and justice. Grants are modest, in the \$500 range. Recipients are asked that, from any profits a project generates, a 10 percent donation — up to the value of the grant — be made to the fund so the work dear to Joan's heart can continue.
- The Kay Camp International Fund is now accepting applications for travel assistance to the International WILPF Congress in Bolivia this summer. WILPF women under 35 years of age are invited to contact Linda Belle at the JAPA office for guidelines. The deadline for applications is May 15. Successful candidates will be notified later in May.

Please contact the JAPA office for details and guidelines about either the Joan Patchen Fund or the Kay Camp International Fund, telephone (212) 682-8830, or e-mail [japa@igc.org](mailto:japa@igc.org). Please remember to include JAPA in your will and estate planning. You are always welcome to call or write to JAPA or to visit the office when you are in New York City.

**This Peace Education section is funded by the Jane Addams Peace Association.**



## ► AID OR PORK BARREL?

*continued from page 23*

reaped the fruit of this policy.”

In June 2006, we learned that the United States coordinated the transfer of weapons by Israel to Force 17, the presidential guard units of Mahmoud Abbas. The transfer consisted of American-made weapons, Palestinian officials said, including 3,000 M-16 assault rifles and more than one million rounds of ammunition. However, media reports stated that the transfer, which was credited to Israel, consisted of 370 assault rifles and an unspecified number of bullets.

With a crippled government that is constantly under siege by Israel, average Palestinians find themselves in a pressure cooker, squeezed between Israel, the international community, and the dispute between Fattah and Hamas, the two largest Palestinian political parties. This is a recipe for disaster, which may well be the intention.

Israel receives financial aid from the United States, which allows it to purchase tanks, helicopter gun ships, F-16 warplanes, machine guns, and bullets — all of which are used to commit daily human rights violations against the Palestinian people. When it is not possible for the Israeli government to use the funds directly on military expenditure, it uses them elsewhere, freeing other Israeli government monies for military salaries, services, and facilities.

According to an article by Frida Berrigan of the World Policy Institute, Israel received more in U.S. military aid from 2001 to 2005 than it has in U.S. arms deliveries. During this period of the Bush Administration, Israel received \$10.5 billion in Foreign Military Financing, the Pentagon’s biggest military aid program, and \$6.3 billion in U.S. arms deliveries.

The aid figure is larger than the arms transfer figure because it includes financing for major arms agreements for which the equipment has yet to be fully delivered. The most prominent of these deals is a \$4.5 billion sale of 102 Lockheed Martin F-16s to Israel. “When it comes to getting arms from the U.S., Israel has money in the bank,” notes William Hartung in a report coauthored with Frida Berrigan.

Military power is Israel’s first priority, so it can maintain its expansion through an occupation of the Palestinian territories, implemented through a matrix of settlements, checkpoints, and closures. In short, the United States is funding and supplying the Israeli government’s occupation of the Palestinian territories. Without financial subsidies from the United States, the Israeli government would have found it difficult to sustain its 35-year military occupation of the Palestinian territories. From 1949 to 1997, total U.S. aid to Israel was \$84,854,827,200.

*Continued on page 26* ►



*Above: Villagers and international visitors, led by Women in Black, in a protest at Bi’lin, a Palestinian town. In the bottom photo: Protesters are at the boundary of the village that is set with roles of barbed wire, determined by Israeli Defense Forces. Officially, the village’s lands for grazing and olive trees is several hundred yards down the lane from where this confrontation took place. The IDF soldiers are on the right, with their plastic shields positioned in front of them.*



*Above: Women in Black at Yassar Arafat’s tomb in Ramallah, August 2005, where (at left) they presented a wreath to Palestinian Authority soldiers.*

*Photos by Melissa Elliott*



## ► AID OR PORK BARREL? from page 25

Palestine was not the only country affected by U.S. aid during the late 1970s and 1980s. Somalia became the largest recipient of U.S. aid in Africa during that time, with most of the money going into military projects. Under U.S. patronage, dictator Siad Barre created the conditions of famine and the militarization of society that led to anarchy and civil war for the past decade and a half. He fomented clan rivalries that have torn the country apart.

Israel is one of the United States' largest arms importers. Between 1996 and 2005 (the last year for which full data is available), Israel took delivery of \$10.19 billion-worth of U.S. weaponry and military equipment, including more than \$8.58 billion through the Foreign Military Sales program and another \$1.61 billion in direct commercial sales.

During the last war in Lebanon, it has been no secret that Israel bombed Lebanon with thousands of cluster bombs made in the United States. While the United States may be the largest producer of cluster bombs, it is not alone. Human Rights Watch asserts that 33 other countries produce more than 210 different types of cluster munitions, and at least twelve other countries have transferred cluster munitions to as many as 58 nations.

International efforts to restrict the use of cluster bombs, modeled after landmine treaties of previous years, are being undermined by lack of U.S. participation. Worse, instead of destroying old cluster bomb stockpiles, the United States exports them to allies around the world.

The U.S. State Department is investigating Israel's use of American-made cluster bombs during the war in Lebanon, in particular, whether Israel broke a secret agreement made with the United States in 1967 not to use cluster

bombs against civilians. According to Frida Berrigan, thousands of civilians have been and will be killed or maimed by these weapons.

On August 23, 2006, the *News Explorer* reported that the "U.S. State Department today offered to provide nearly \$2.5 million in additional aid to help clear mines and other abandoned weapons in Lebanon, hours after three Lebanese troops and an Israeli soldier were killed by unexploded ordnance."

It is clear we are exporting weapons as we simultaneously provide aid to remove them from soils where they are killing children, laborers, and women working the fields. U.S. taxpayers are doubly penalized in these vicious cycles, because their tax money does not benefit their local economy, but instead is used for arms and weapons sales around the world.

Another detrimental aspect of U.S. aid is a relationship of economic dependence between poor countries and the IMF, the World Bank, and corporations. The United Nations Economic and Social Council notes that effectiveness of aid to poor countries requires a focus on economic infrastructure. Jose Antonio Ocampo, Under Secretary General for the United Nations, said that debt, commodities, official development, assistance, and, in some cases, the risk of a conflict hamper development in the least developed countries.

Of course, corporations that manufacture arms have much to gain from this nefarious business, as they receive easy subsidies that are not investigated in detail. Their expenditures are hidden under the deep blanket of the U.S. Defense Department, which has extraordinary expenses for which it never accounts. This means, ultimately, that millions of dollars are allowed to disappear into thin air. For this reason, the objectives advanced by WILPF's Women's Budget could eventually transform our planet and increase the growth of a peace economy, overriding the human misery and destructive agenda brought on by war. It is of utmost importance that more people get behind such agendas.

The challenge is to transition from the death industry — a war production economy — to a life-giving economy. And so, if the planet, and more specifically the human race, is to survive, a peace economy is essential. We must envision a world at peace, with a new foreign policy. Until we achieve a change in foreign policy, we must carefully craft long-term peace policy initiatives and inspire the creation of a peace culture for the children of the world, who bear the brunt of wars. To do this, we must challenge the current economic paradigm built on oil and arms exports and create an economy that will share resources, support alternative energies, and cultivate economic well-being for all of its citizens.

*Odile Hugonot Haber is a chair of WILPF's Women Challenging U.S. Policy Building Peace on Justice in the Middle East (WCUSP) campaign.*

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# Women unite! Build peace! Generate change!

29<sup>th</sup> International Congress, July 21-27, 2007, Santa Cruz, Bolivia

*“We invite you to join us in this critical time for the planet and for peace. We call on you to join your voices for peace, for a healthy planet, for dignity, and for life.”*

Regina Birchem, International President of WILPF

## Why Bolivia?

Bolivia is the choice for this Congress for many reasons. First and foremost is to stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples as they confront a difficult economic situation. To hold a conference and spend money in Bolivia will help the economy. In the past fifteen years, Bolivia has gone through a period of increased poverty, privatization of resources such as water, and policies that keep it the poorest country in South America. With great courage and determination, the Indigenous peoples of Bolivia have contested the exploitation of their water, natural resources, and land while they live in poverty.

We will support Bolivians in their fight against reducing the national debt by reducing money spent on social services, especially health and education. We will have the opportunity to witness firsthand a country being run by a newly elected progressive government of indigenous people.

## Where will the Congress be held and what will it cost?

We will stay and meet at the Hotel Camino Real, located in one of the most beautiful residential areas of Santa Cruz, only minutes away from the downtown area and a wealth of cultural, commercial, business, and leisure attractions.

The price for meals and lodging will be \$650 in U.S. dollars, beginning with lunch on July 21 and ending with breakfast on July 27. The price covers:

- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner for this period, including two coffee breaks with pastries
- Shared double rooms, each with a private bathroom
- Use of the spa, business center, and meeting room
- Transportation to and from the airport

## Climate and Clothing

Santa Cruz is located 416 meters above sea level, with sunny and semitropical weather. The average temperature in the summer is 90 degrees Fahrenheit. However, rainfall can be heavy during the summer, and a single deluge can last for days. Heavy and chilly winds called *surazos* blow into Santa Cruz from the Argentine pampas. It is important to wear cool clothing, pack a wrap, and bring something water repellent to go over your clothes.

## Visa information

It is necessary to have a valid passport or visa to enter Bolivia. It will be granted for a thirty- or ninety-day period, depending on the agreement between Bolivia and the traveler's own country.

Countries (where WILPF has Sections) that do NOT require visas are: Germany, Argentina, Austria, Australia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Great Britain, Finland, France, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Sweden, Switzerland, and many countries of the Caribbean.

Countries (where WILPF has Sections) that DO require visas are: Albania, Belarus, Russia, Cuba, El Salvador, Venezuela, and the United States.



## Program

You may wish to keep these dates and activities in mind when planning your travel:

**July 21:** Arrival of Congress delegates and participants; Morning: International Officers' Meeting; Afternoon: Standing Committee Meeting; After coffee break: Pre-Congress IEC; Evening: Welcome dinner

**July 26:** Noon: Closing plenary of Congress; Afternoon: Post-Congress IEC; Evening: Closing dinner and party

**July 27:** Departure after breakfast; Afternoon: Meeting of new and old officers

If you are interested in attending the Congress, send your name, home address, e-mail address, and telephone number to the acting conference coordinator Tamara James (Tamara@wilpf.ch), at the WILPF office in Geneva.

More information will soon be posted at [www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org).



Some sights of Santa Cruz: Pueblo, top of page; mural, left; Jesuits' mission, above.

# Giving in Support of Peace and Freedom

The year 2006 was an exciting one for WILPF. We added 24 new life members and increased the number of WILPF members who pledge monthly. As you can see from the graph at right, WILPF continues to receive most of its funds from individuals.

Professional fundraisers will tell you that this is good. Total dependence on foundation or government funds can lead to swings in income and program delivery.

Individuals give to what they believe in, whether it is a church, synagogue, mosque, school, or organization. A bond of trust develops that assures the supporters that the recipient organization will use money wisely, continuing the programs and mission. This is the bond WILPF-U.S. has built with its members and contributors.

**Let's join hands in expanding our work for peace**

In 2007, national staff will work to expand membership and increase contributors. Each of the National Campaigns and the Issue Committees has developed objectives and strategies that can be used to seek new sources of funds. Each Campaign and Issues Committee has designated a person to work with development staff in researching foundations and developing proposals. The Board Development Committee has developed its workplan for the year, with a focus on increasing the number of people who support WILPF and encouraging existing contributors to give more, if they can. Staff and Board members will be in conversation with supporters of WILPF to answer questions and to share the great work WILPF is doing.

And, of course we will continue to encourage WILPF members to pledge monthly! Many people are not in a position to give great amounts of money, but by making a monthly pledge, one person can make a difference.

If you know people whom you believe should be members and/or contributors, let us know in the National Office. Together we can develop and plan outreach materials that may be effective. Let's join hands in expanding our work for peace. — *Judy Claude*

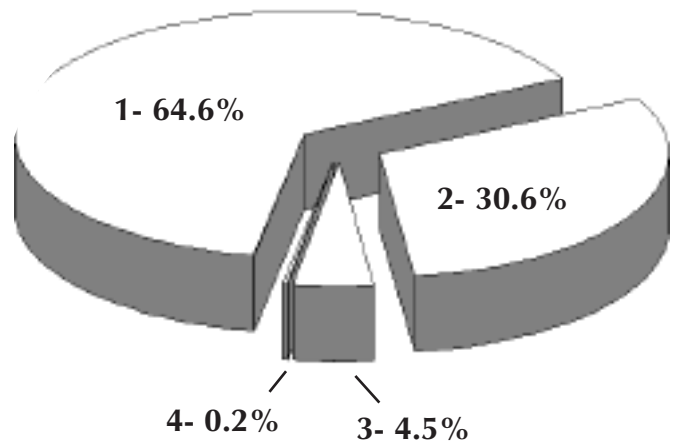
## WILPF Annual Finance Report, 2006

### Revenue - 2006

**\$520,718\***

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Gifts from Individuals              | \$336,356 |
| 2. Bequests/Gifts in Memory            | \$159,348 |
| 3. Resources, Royalties, Subscriptions | \$ 24,014 |
| 4. Foundation Grants                   | \$ 1,000  |

\*unaudited numbers

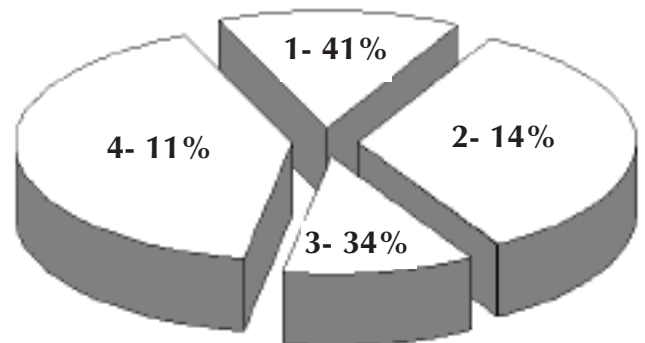


### Expenditures - 2006

**\$517,273\***

- |                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Program and International | \$211,160 |
| 2. Membership Services       | \$ 73,179 |
| 3. Administration            | \$175,331 |
| 4. Fundraising               | \$ 57,603 |

\*unaudited numbers



### 2006 BEQUESTS

WILPF gratefully acknowledges these gifts that keep the peace flame burning from generation to generation.

**Thelma Browne • Margaret Bushong • Kay Camp • Norma Cossey • Florence Gomez  
Thomas M. Kerr • Ruth Ostroff • Marva Spelman**



# BranchAction News

*Jessica Lee, Branch Action editor*

**Branches reporting: Cape Cod, Central Vermont, Cleveland, Delaware County, Fresno, Los Angeles, Madison, Minnesota Metro, Monterey County, New York, Oakland, Palm Beach, Palo Alto, Peninsula, Portland, St. Louis, San Jose, Santa Cruz, Tucson.**

**Dear Friends:** Fall 2006 was Leslie Reindl's final edition of Branch Action News. As the Leadership and Outreach Intern at the National Office in Philadelphia, I have the pleasure of reading and sharing all the activities of the branches. Please continue to send your newsletters to the National Office. —Jessica Lee

**Correction** to the Fall 2006 edition — under the heading *Lebanon, Iran, and Iraq* should be added that **Ashland** raised money to fund the rebuilding of Haditha Hospital in Iraq. We are sorry for the omission.

## DECEMBER HOLIDAY EVENTS

**Cape Cod's** public announcement television ad "No War Toys" was made available. **Delaware County** held a holiday gathering to send books to help start a library in Zambia. **Palo Alto** raised \$621 with an auction at a holiday party fundraiser. **Palm Beach** and **Tucson** held annual antiwar toy campaigns at local Toys-R-Us stores. **Cleveland** sponsored the Holiday Peace Festival and Bazaar, a gathering of Cleveland peace and justice organizations. **Santa Cruz** held a holiday gathering with performances by the Raging Grannies and the Santa Cruz Peace Chorale. **Peninsula's** Raging Grannies performed at an antiwar toy campaign at Walmart and distributed a 1923 WILPF flyer entitled "Disarm the Nursery." **Monterey County** Branch marched in the New Year's Eve parade in downtown Monterey.

## MIDDLE EAST

Many branches are actively working on the WCUSP campaign for peace in the Middle East. **Cape Cod, Oakland, Portland, Cleveland, Minnesota Metro, Monterey County, San Jose, St. Louis,** and **Tucson** participate in weekly Women in Black vigils. **St. Louis** and **Los Angeles** branches each hosted Hedy Epstein for a talk about her travels in the Middle East. **Tucson** has monthly study group meetings led by Israeli-American Racheli Gai and Palestinian-American Mohyeddin Abdulaziz. **Madison** held its annual fund raising Peace

and Freedom Dinner, featuring Lea Zeldin's talk, "A Quiet House on a Busy Street," about her trip to Amman, Jordan. **Central Vermont** hosted Ellen Barfield at the branch's annual meeting for the presentation "Enemies Working Together." **St. Louis** participated in the successful WILPF Speakout on U.S. policy in Israel and Palestine on November 20. **Los Angeles** in September hosted Aliyah Strauss, co-chair of WILPF Israel for the talk "War Does Not Bring Justice" and Catia Confortini for a talk on WILPF International. **Delaware County** hosted Libby Frank to speak about the WCUSP campaign.



Susan Gracey (left) of Boston Branch joins Medea Benjamin at a national Biodemocracy Event in Philadelphia, PA, co-sponsored by WILPF. Panelists explored growing evidence that the U.S., after rejecting the inspection protocol for the Bioweapons Treaty, has embarked on a multi-billion dollar bioweapons program.

## IRAQ

**Tucson** honored Cindy Sheehan, cofounder of Gold Star Families for Peace, and Col. Ann Wright with awards for their efforts to end U.S. military action in Iraq. **Palo Alto** branch members met with Anne Ream, legislative assistant of Rep. Anna Eshoo, to discuss military aggression in Lebanon and Israel and the war in Iraq. **New York** participated in the Iraq Antiwar Rally on Columbus Day and in October's World Can't Wait rally "Drive Out the Bush Regime Day of Mass Resistance." **Monterey County** aired the program *The War on Terror Revisited* on public access television with Monterey 9/11 Truth. **Santa Cruz** joined with the local Declaration of Peace Campaign in Stand on the Corner for Peace in Iraq. **Delaware County** participated in the nationwide vigil on March 17 to bring the troops home. **Minnesota Metro** participated in Listen to Women For a Change — Troops Home Fast from Code Pink. **Oakland** holds weekly vigils and is co-sponsoring action to support Lt. Ehren Watada's refusal to be sent to Iraq. **Palm Beach** handed out flyers for the action Teach Peace: Bring Our Troops Home Now. **St. Louis** cosponsored a screening of *Iraq for Sale: The War Profiteers*, with director Robert Greenwald and a buffet reception.

## SAVE THE WATER

Tucson, Santa Cruz, St. Louis, and Cleveland branches hold bimonthly meetings for study groups on WILPF's water campaign. **Cape Cod** is creating a regional plan for wastewater study and management. The branch cosponsored a Wastewater Forum with the League of Women Voters. **Palm Beach's** topic for their annual workshop was "The Privatization and Sale of Sources of Water and the Direct Impact on Us All Locally and Globally." **Monterey County** participated in the Tapestry of the Commons event, where Nancy Price presented the importance of the commons, with an emphasis on water, by weaving a tapestry of ribbons.

## RAGING GRANNIES

**Tucson's** Raging Grannies performed at the 25th Annual Peace Fair. **Madison's** Raging Grannies went to Washington, D.C., on January 18 to voice their views on ending occupation of Iraq. The Grannies performed at "Food for the Body, Food for the Soul," the Martin Luther King Free Community Dinner. **New York** Raging Grannies participated in the Clearwater Festival of 2006 and a radio broadcast on WBAI. On Sept. 10, Raging Grannies participated in activities for National Grandparents Day and 9/11. On Sept. 19, the Grannies marched with United for Peace & Justice and appeared on Channel 5 news. In **Philadelphia**, the Raging Grannies held a rally on Dec 1, the court date for the eleven Grannies charged with "defiant trespass," when they refused to leave the North Broad Street military recruiting center after attempting to enlist. **Peninsula** Raging Grannies joined Stanford students to detour Bush's visit to Hoover Institute and were featured in the *San Jose Mercury News*. In **Sacramento**, the Grannies sang at the Immigration Rights Rally before 130,000 people. In October the Grannies sang at the U.S. Out of Iraq Rally at the UN Plaza in San Francisco. A photograph of the **Palo Alto** Raging Grannies' performance at Zibibo's was on the front page of the *Palo Alto Daily News*. **Santa Cruz** Raging Grannies sang at the Declaration of Peace die-in, where peace groups dramatized the situation in the Middle East.

## LEGISLATION

WILPF branches are currently working on the following legislative campaigns: HR 4232: End the War in Iraq Act of 2006 (**Santa Cruz, Oakland, St. Louis**); HR 373: Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Commitment Act (**Palo Alto, St. Louis, New York Metro**); S 3768: Victim-activated Landmine Abolition Act of 2006 (**Portland**); HR 2420: Space Preservation Act of 2005 (**New York Metro**); HCR 950: Abolishing Nuclear Weapons (**Oakland**). **New York Metro** took the United Nations

Security Council's Resolution 1325 to City Hall, where members held an initial hearing on women, peace, and security with Councilman Charles Barron's legislative team.

## OTHER ISSUES AND ACTIONS

**Tucson, Oakland,** and **Portland** hold weekly anti-recruitment vigils and do leafleting. **Delaware County** participated in Wage Peace & Justice's forum with candidates Joe Sestak and Curt Weldon, discussing foreign and domestic policy. **Los Angeles** tabled literature at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Westside Coalition Celebration, "True Peace Is the Presence of Justice." **Fresno** member Vickie Fouts represented WILPF at Fresno May Day, A Day Without Immigrants event, and discussed HR 4437. **Cape Cod** is presenting copies of the Jane Addams Children's Book Award recipients to the Wellfleet Library, thanks to Dorothy Carver, who bought the books to be donated.

## SAVE THE DATE

The Des Moines (Iowa) WILPF Branch invites all WILPF members to join them for the 2008 National WILPF Congress on June 24-29, 2008, at beautiful Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa.



Dec. 1, 2006, Philadelphia, PA: Solidarity vigil for Grannies on trial for attempting to register for military service at the U.S. Army Recruiter's office.



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## JOIN YOUR WILPF SISTERS TO PLEDGE FOR PEACE

*Since 1915, WILPF has been working to create a global, lasting peace.*

*JOIN us as we make peace a reality in 2007!*



If you pledge to WILPF, your membership status will remain current as long as you continue your pledge. No more renewals!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

My pledge will be on a monthly basis: \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$15 \_\_\_\$10 \_\_\_\$5 \_\_\_Other

Please check which option you would like to use:

Send us a VOIDED personal check and we will set up the process for the amount you indicate above to be deducted automatically.

Automatic charge to your credit /debit card. Your credit card number, expiration date and signature will be processed monthly in the amount indicated. VISA/MasterCard # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Option for credit card or debit card only!! Please check here \_\_\_\_\_ if you wish to make your monthly pledge to the U.S. Fund of the Jane Addams Peace Association. These gifts are fully-tax-deductible.

With your pledge of support, you will receive a subscription to *Peace & Freedom*.

Mail to: WILPF, 1213 Race Street, Philadelphia PA 19107

For more information, call (215)563-7110 or email [wilpf@wilpf.org](mailto:wilpf@wilpf.org).

### Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

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Carol Urner at the Avenue of Flags in Geneva, Switzerland.

See her article on page 4