

No More Bombs



Information and Advocacy for Nuclear Disarmament

Newsletter no. 1

June, 2018

Dear Friends,

This little project, which for now I will call a newsletter, is an attempt to come up with a more effective, ongoing, and interactive method of communication, to serve the objectives in the heading above, providing information and advocacy for nuclear disarmament.

I will try to keep the preaching to a minimum, I know we all share the conviction that nuclear weapons are the most destructive and inhumane products of our society, and we are equally devoted to their elimination and abolition. The stories we share here are tools for us to use in that work. In this issue, we have one about a hibakusha's visit to Hanford, one about nuclear weapons free zones, another about the UN treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons, and a peek at congressional action and inaction. These subjects will vary with each issue, and there will always be updates, as in this one, of what our local group is doing. Future issues will include new subject matter, as we encounter new aspects of the problems. Topics like education: How do we inform the students who are inheriting these threats? And divestment: How is this military-industrial complex being funded, who is benefiting and who is made to suffer by this war establishment? And the senators and representatives, and those running for office, where do they stand?

We welcome contributions from you, and encourage you to share this with friends and family.

This is what this little newsletter is all about: sharing information about what is happening in the nuclear weapons world, the good and the bad. I cannot presume to decide, for anyone but myself, what to do with that information. This is what I feel I must do, and if you have read this far, please feel free to do whatever you wish with the items I publish. Our little peace group on Fidalgo Island will continue to have meetings, the facebook page will stay up for now, and this will be emailed to anyone who signs up for it. If you are not already on the No More Bombs email list, please contact me at tracy@nomorebombs.org and I will add you to the list.

By the same method, I will remove your email address if you don't want to get it anymore. Just tell me. I welcome your comments and suggestions too.

Thank you, tracy w powell www.nomorebombs.org

Note: Stories here may not always be current, but always relevant I hope. If links send you to websites that are unpleasant, I apologize. Please bear with me, I will endeavor to organize future issues more carefully.
Thanks

Here is a story from **Crosscut**, of a visit to Hanford by a survivor of the nuclear bombing of Nagasaki. Mitsugi Moriguchi reminds us of that horrible day August 9, 1945, when plutonium from Hanford Reactor B destroyed his city, killing and maiming a hundred thousand human beings.

[https://crosscut.com/2018/06/different-kind-atomic-tourist-visits-hanford?utm_source=Crosscut+Daily+\(two+ads\)+June+1&utm_medium=email](https://crosscut.com/2018/06/different-kind-atomic-tourist-visits-hanford?utm_source=Crosscut+Daily+(two+ads)+June+1&utm_medium=email)

As the first priority of the Manhattan Project, to begin producing plutonium for the bombs that hadn't yet been built at Los Alamos, the Hanford reactor was constructed very quickly, and the crucial problem of waste disposal was never resolved. It not only provided nuclear fuel for thousands of bombs, it also has poisoned a huge portion of Eastern Washington, including the people who have lived and worked there. These problems are ongoing, and may never be solved.

The site is regularly open for public tours, if you want to see for yourself. Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility is organizing tours on July 11 and 12, https://www.oregonpsr.org/hanford_tour_2018

or you can go directly to the government website: <https://manhattanprojectreactor.hanford.gov/index.cfm>

Having visited the Trinity site in New Mexico last fall, I can appreciate the impact seeing these places in person can have. However, I cannot imagine what Mr. Moriguchi must have felt.

Nuclear Weapons Free Zones: Several states, counties, and cities have adopted these resolutions, some of which are on this [page of our website](#), which includes an excellent template provided by Physicians for Social Responsibility, for how they may be worded. Skagit County adopted theirs in 1985, after presentation by Skagit Citizens for Nuclear Disarmament, a very active and dedicated group who continue to inspire our current efforts. These resolutions are mainly symbolic, but their consideration by legislators at all levels of government serve to keep the discussion going, and educate people who may not be aware of the dangers inherent in all parts of the nuclear weapons industry. I think our group can contribute to this effort.

This story appeared in the June issue of **The Sunflower**, the monthly newsletter of the [Nuclear Age Peace Foundation](#):

“Three Nations Ratify Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in May”

During the month of May, three nations ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Palau ratified on May 3, followed by Austria on May 8, and Vietnam on May 17. This brings the total number of ratifications to 10, with more expected in the coming weeks.

The treaty will enter into force once 50 countries ratify the treaty.

["Signature/Ratification Status of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,"](#) *International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons*, May 31, 2018.

Congress has not considered any of the bills submitted for restraining nuclear warfare, but there is some cause for hope. Pramila Jayapal (D-WA, Seventh District) was the only Washington member of Congress to vote against the recent massive military budget.

She is also a cosponsor of HR 669, which would prohibit any president from launching a nuclear first strike without congressional approval, and HR 4837, prohibiting any military first strike against North Korea. Perhaps our own representative Rick Larsen could be persuaded to do the same. His Washington, DC address is 2113 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515, his 2nd District offices are 119 N Commercial St #225, Bellingham, WA 98225, and 2930 Wetmore Ave. Suite 9F, Everett, WA 98201. Send him a postcard or two. You can call his office in DC (202) 225-2605, Bellingham (360) 733-4500, and Everett (425) 252-3188

All of the bills related to nuclear weapons are accessed on our home page: www.nomorebombs.org

Local No More Bombs updates:

Our steering committee is working on our Bylaws, and some of the other details and paperwork needed to register with the state as a nonprofit group, and hope to have a bank account soon. Our next meeting date has not been set, but we will contact you all when it is.

In May, Lilly Adams of Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility's Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, of which we are a member group, held a meeting of other groups in Bellingham, at Whatcom Peace and Justice Center. Bud Anderson, Lyndon Greene, and myself attended, and we learned a lot, made some good contacts, and we hope to develop some future shared actions. Lilly's powerpoint presentation can be accessed on our [home page, under New Additions](#). We followed up with another meeting with Lilly the next day in Anacortes. Very encouraging, and we will continue to coordinate with WPSR and other groups.

As always, we welcome your suggestions, comments, and complaints. The work ahead of us will need many hands, hearts, and minds, and all the dedication we can sustain. Please contact any one or all of us:

Bud Anderson, budathome2012@hotmail.com, Wim Houppermans wh5314b@gmail.com, Lyndon Greene anacomaritimectr@msn.com, or me tracy@nomorebombs.org

We eagerly welcome any volunteers to work on any of the specific tasks, such as education, divestment, outreach, fundraising, publication, or anything we have not addressed. Thank you!

A Quote to Remember:

“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.”

President Dwight D. Eisenhower

