

No More Bombs



Information and Advocacy for Nuclear Disarmament

Newsletter no. 8

January , 2019

Hello Dear Friends in Peace,

As we expected, the new year is off to a wild start, with new faces in Congress challenging the Trump administration on vital issues, and meeting the inevitable irrational pushback. Here in our Washington, WPSR has inspired a resolution, now being presented to the legislature, that would put our state on record as opposing nuclear war preparations, and urging Congress to do the same. We will focus on this resolution here because it is a clear statement of the policy changes we in the Nuclear Disarmament movement are advocating.

The 2019 Washington Legislature opens Jan 14, and the resolution will be presented to the House of Representatives sometime in the following week, according to Representative Gael Tarleton, of the 36th District, who is also on the Board of Directors of Ploughshares Fund. Here in our area, we have two newly elected representatives, Debra Lekanoff, who joins Jeff Morris in the 40th, and Dave Paul in the 10th, both Democrats. We will contact them, and recommend that they sign on to this resolution, as soon as we hear it is introduced, and will also send a notice to our email list, in case you want to do the same. The same resolution will be introduced to the state Senate soon, and if both are approved, they would be adopted as one statement, and forwarded to our state's delegation to the US Congress, and the White House, as the official recommendation of the state of Washington. We would join California and a few cities around the country who have already done the same, and as the state holding the most nuclear weapons and the most nuclear contamination, it is a Big Deal.

But first, because January 15 is Rev Martin Luther King Jr's birthday, and the holiday is celebrated on the 21st, it is fitting to recall some of the powerful teachings of this most wonderful leader:

“Somehow, we must transform the dynamics of the world power struggle from the negative nuclear arms race, which no one can win, to a positive contest to harness humanity's creative genius for the purpose of making peace and prosperity a reality for all the nations of the world.”

and

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Read on.....

Washington State Resolution

The wording of the resolution is still a work in progress, and when it is finalized, it will be uploaded to our website, but here is the heart of the matter. These few lines state the argument very clearly. We can expect to see this language in new bills to be introduced to Congress, and in fact, some already have (S & HR #s). This package has been called the Back from the Brink Resolution, in reference to former Defense Secretary William D Perry's 2015 book and his online course at Stanford University.

The United States could lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- **renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first** (HR 4415)
 - **ending the President's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack** (S 200 & HR 669)
 - **taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert**
 - **canceling the "modernization" plan to replace its entire arsenal with next-generation nuclear weapons**
 - **actively pursuing a verifiable, multilateral agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals** (join the 122 nations already signed on to the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons)
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This resolution is very important, because it covers such topics as the specific problems our state must deal with, such as the cleanup of the Midnite Mine and the Hanford site, both of which are now threatened with drastic reductions in regulations and remediation funding. It also highlights the unique danger our whole state is in, because of the concentration of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems here, in Bremerton, Indian Island, NAS Whidbey, and Naval Station Everett. All of these facilities are potential targets, within range of Russia and N. Korea.

Introduction of this resolution, and similar ones in other states, is part of a new strategy being developed jointly by the national organizations such as Physicians for Social Responsibility, Ploughshares Fund, Nuclear Threat Initiative, and others, because it has become very clear to all sectors of the ND movement that we must coordinate our efforts, and work together at every level, in every community, if we are to have any chance to slow down, let alone stop and reverse, the current acceleration of the nuclear arms race and inevitable rush to nuclear war.

Here is a link to a [PSR document on the resolution](#), as it could be submitted to all the states.

In other news

-Want to test your Nuclear Knowledge? Take the quiz at <http://www.nuclearban.us/>

-On January 24, [Bulletin of Atomic Scientists](#) will make its 2019 Doomsday Clock statement. The link will get you to the live broadcast, 7 AM our time. We will report what is said here next month.

-[Here is a link to the Golden Rule Project, which is launching a new video, and a new cruise.](#) The Golden Rule was the very first of the environmental and peace vessels to go to sea. In 1958, a crew of anti-nuclear weapons activists set sail aboard her in an attempt to interpose themselves and the boat between the U.S. Government and its atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in the Marshall Islands in the Pacific Ocean.

Thank you for reading this little letter, I hope to improve it in the future. Please tell me if you have any comments, suggestions, complaints, or advice. If you want to be removed from our email list, just say so, and it is done. As always, everything we gather, documents, images, graphics, slide shows, videos, are all available at www.nomorebombs.org for you to do whatever you want with. When we schedule meetings, or have other announcements, we use the same email list, in between the monthly newsletters. Please contact any of us, any time: Bud Anderson, budathome2012@hotmail.com, Wim Houppermans wh5314b@gmail.com, Lyndon Greene anacomaritimectr@msn.com, or me tracy@nomorebombs.org , 360-840-3826

I encourage us all to stay aware, and engaged, in all the issues we care about. Social Justice, Gun Violence, Environmental Protection, Animal Rights, Peace and Reconciliation, all struggles for life. Whether in small groups, national organizations, or alone, there is plenty of work for all of us, and every one matters.

geographical Peace Quote submitted by No More Bombs member K A

