



Information and Advocacy for Nuclear Disarmament

Newsletter no. 22

March 2020

Greetings Dear Friends,

Well, where were we? Oh yeah, primaries, rallies, meetings, the usual commotion. Plus social distancing. Now that nuclear madness has slipped even farther down the list of crises each of us grapple with, we adapt.

The news, briefly: legislation, political action, and taking it to the streets; then: as we contract our worlds to avoid contaminating each other, I offer a selection of online self education materials, in the hope that we will continue to learn about the nuclear threats growing in our world, and the work being done by dedicated folks everywhere. Let's inspire ourselves. Details below.

Take care. Peace and Love,

tracy

The joint memorials in the WA legislature [HJM 4008](#) and [SJM 8006](#) have both failed to get to the floor for votes, so they are dormant again until next year. One relevant bill, [SSJM 8017](#), the senate memorial urging Congress to reinstate health care for the Marshall Islands and other COFA states, did pass. WANW Coalition joined a delegation of Marshallese citizens advocating for this important plea. Congratulations to them, and thanks to any of you who helped as well.

Locally, the [No First Use resolution](#) Julia Hurd presented on our behalf to the 40th District Democrats was adopted March 1. Our voices are being heard. Thank you Julia!

At the Bangor Trident base on March 2, thirteen disarmament activists were arrested during a nonviolent blockade of the base entrance. [The full story is here.](#)

Now for something different. I have been browsing online for informational videos to add to our book and dvd library for some time, and now it seems a good time to share. Here are a few videos that you can watch and listen to on your computer, or by connecting to your tv while online you can make a family event of them. A couple have been shown at past NMB meetings, but were viewed by only a few of us then. I have lots more, but these will serve to get started, and I would like to hear what you think about them.

<https://vimeo.com/250517563> **Making Waves, The Golden Rule Project** is a powerful experience. It tells the inspiring story of the original Golden Rule and its crew of peace activists who sailed into the nuclear testing zone in the Marshall Islands to protest the bombing of those islands and their inhabitants, and documents the renewed mission as it is happening today. Since this movie was produced, the Golden Rule returned to the west coast, was refitted again, and sailed for Hawaii last summer, where she now is preparing for the voyage into the Marshall Islands and Japan this year. Veterans for Peace. 24 minutes (a 10 minute version <https://vimeo.com/259060401> may be easier to watch, but I recommend the longer version)

This is a brilliant video from the Marshall Islands. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDVND8mPaso> produced by young Marshallese citizens, whose group MISA 4 the Pacific is working to educate the world about their tragic history and what the rest of us can learn from their experiences moving forward. Its intimate feel and authenticity make it all the better. About 10 minutes.

ABC News / Foreign Correspondents produced this documentary about the **Runit Dome, a Leaking Toxic Time Bomb.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=autMHvj3exA> . Its a long one, but full of more information, and loaded with clips from our government that will stimulate more thought about our current dilemma than anything I've seen lately. This is one we ought to show at a meeting, and spend some time discussing. If you watch it at home, I would be eager to hear what you think. It could stimulate many conversations. About 1 hour.

What Does a Nuclear Bomb Explosion Feel Like? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_dxTaGEp0 Interviews of British soldiers who witnessed one of the US nuclear tests in the Pacific, and were sworn to secrecy. Their stories are sobering. 10 minutes.

If You Love This Planet is a classic lecture by Dr. Helen Caldicott, a founding director of Physicians for Social Responsibility, filmed in 1982. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7FjgBBQFmGs> As with many youtube videos, some of the comments posted after are just as revealing about our current national conversations as they were back in the middle of the Cold War. Its a little dated, but enlightening, as is her book of the same title. 1/2 hour.

We will keep you updated about future meetings, and other activities, and are always open to your suggestions. You can contact us anytime. Our steering committee members are Bud Anderson budathome2012@hotmail.com, Julia Hurd hurdjulia@gmail.com, Wim Houppermans wh5314b@gmail.com, and me Tracy Powell tracy@nomorebombs.org. You can also call or text me at 360-840-3826. If you wish to get more involved, and help plan more activities, please join in. Our website <https://www.nomorebombs.org/> has all our previous newsletters and lots of information, and is constantly being updated.

