No More Bombs



Information and Advocacy for Nuclear Disarmament

Newsletter no. 29

March 2021

Greetings Dear Friends,

Spring has arrived, and with it an awakening of our hopes for Peace. As we all hoped, the Biden administration is taking up the challenges , of trying to restore some sanity to the nuclear weapons posture our country adopted in the previous four years. New START has been saved, for now, and negotiations are now underway regarding JCPOA. Both of these are huge, complex stories, and we will continue to observe them with cautious eyes. In addition, budget negotiations underway now will be revealed later this year, as such items as the already signed contracts for new plutonium pit production, new nuclear tests, and construction of the next generation ICBMs, new missiles and warheads called GBSD, are up for more or less funding.

All of these issues will continue to be discussed by the new administration, Congress, and the Defense and Energy departments, mostly in secret, for months and years. We will try to keep track as well as we can, but won't be reporting much until some definite resolutions become public. In the meantime, I am recommending to you, our members and friends, to directly follow some of the resources that I monitor, rather than my retelling.

I'll be carving doves for a while.

thank you, tracy

Here is a link to a brilliant article by Leonard Eiger, of Ground Zero Center, at Bremerton.

https://www.gzcenter.org/end-us-uk-nuclear-collusion/

This group is one of the prime movers in the Peace and Justice community in our state, and the nation. They are active advocates for Peace and Disarmament at the gates of the Bangor Trident base, and they fund banners and posters all over the Puget Sound. I encourage you to also subscribe to their newsletter, and donate if you can.

Olympia Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons is a member of the <u>Washington Coalition Against Nuclear</u> <u>Weapons</u>, as we are. On the web, it is <u>http://parallaxperspectives.org/flyer-olympia-coalition-to-abolish-</u> <u>nuclear-weapons</u> Glen Anderson publishes articles there on all aspects of nuclear weapons and the work for international disarmament, and teaches online classes of exceptional quality. The group does active lobbying of state and national legislators, and bannering over I-5.

Next is the <u>Golden Rule project</u>. This is a collaborative effort, by the crew who rebuilt and resailed the Golden Rule, (a 32 ft ketch that Albert Bigelow and crew had tried to sail into the nuclear test zone in the Pacific, in protest, in April, 1958), Veterans for Peace, Quakers, and their international foundation of volunteers and supporters. Please read <u>this issue of their newsletter</u>, which touches on the ICAN Treaty, the Marshall Islands, and their own sailing plans for the coming years. I encourage you to visit their website, and subscribe to their newsletters. Maybe even meet up with them in San Francisco this summer, and donate to the cause.

This month has been especially important for the **Marshall Islands**. Most of the month has been devoted to remembrances of the 1954 Castle Bravo thermonuclear bombing of Bikini Atoll by the US government. It was by far the most powerful and destructive of the 58 nuclear tests in the islands from 1946 to 1957. <u>A great resource is the COFA website</u>. The **Compact of Free Association**, which includes the Marshall Islands, Palau, and Micronesia, has been striving to get compensation for the residents and refugees who have moved to the US mainland in search of medical care. Just this year, some progress was made in the US budget to restore Medicaid, but much more needs to be done. <u>WashingtonPhysiciansforSocialResponsibility</u> and <u>OregonPhysiciansforSocialResponsibility</u> have both been working to assist Marshall Islanders, and donations to both are welcomed.

No More Bombs will host our next zoom meeting on Tuesday, May 18, at 7 PM. Our guest will be **Trisha Pritikin**, Hanford Downwinder. She will tell us about the extent of the spread of radioactive waste in the earth, water, and atmosphere surrounding the Hanford plutonium production facility over its decades long operation, and the devastating health problems of people unwillingly exposed all those years. We will also give a way copies of her book <u>The Hanford Plaintiffs</u>. Links to the meeting will be available on our website, and in the next newsletter.

If you wish to share your questions and suggestions, please contact any of our steering committee:

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