No More Bombs





Information and Advocacy for Nuclear Disarmament

nowslattor no. 22

newsletter no. 33 January 2022

What's new this year? More, and worse, of the same nuclear madness.

This issue will be mostly follow-up to our November discussion. One piece is the passage in Congress and signing by the President of the 2022 military budget, or NDAA of \$768 Billion, like every year before, a whopping increase. Here is a statement about it: https://livableworld.org/clw-strongly-opposes-768b-fy-2022-national-defense-authorization-act/

Several important conferences, both at the federal level and internationally, are scheduled during the first months of the year. First on the international level is the NPT Review, at UN Headquarters in New York, originally set for 2020, but delayed by the Covid pandemic until January 4 through 28, 2022. Now delayed again, possibly until August, we will have to wait and see.

Still ongoing is the Biden administration's NPR, which began in late 2021.

The historic first meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons is scheduled to take place in Vienna, Austria, March 22-24.

We welcome any news you wish to share about these issues. Please ask any questions you may have also. There are lots of resources, and we are eager to assist in shedding light on these crucial topics in any way we can. Thank you!

Here is an insightful news story from KUOW reporter Grace Todd https://kuow.org/stories/the-secret-history-of-nukes-in-washington-state, well worth reading and saving.

January 20 will be the 75th Doomsday Clock Announcement of the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists. Here is a link to the announcement about the online event. https://thebulletin.org/2022/01/hank-green-author-and-science-communicator-joins-75th-anniversary-doomsday-clock-announcement/

In case we and our leaders have forgotten, we are already in the most precarious position since the bomb was invented. Can it get any worse? We will hear what the Bulletin has to say on the 20th.

As we discussed at our last zoom meeting, the power point presentation and pdf of which you can find on our website, (the two buttons marked "TPNW: our last maybe only chance?"), the presidential Nuclear Posture Review is underway now. This assessment is being drawn up by advisors to the president, from both the Pentagon and representatives of the military contractors who benefit from nuclear weapons contracts. They will most likely decide to continue the "modernization" program, now in its acceleration phase, building new missiles and warheads, but also such policy items as No First Use, Sole Authority, and Launch On Warning Alert Status. Several Peace and Disarmament Organizations are attempting to influence the administration thinking on these policies. Here are links you can use to learn more and get involved.

https://www.armscontrol.org/events/2021-12/comments-nuclear-posture-review-npr-working-group

https://armscontrolcenter.org/issues/no-first-use/

https://beyondthebomb.org/campaigns/stop-missile-modernization/

https://ploughshares.org/BidenNPR/? ga=2.214079185.755798926.1641844172-1366956248.1641844172

And another petition we endorsed: https://www.commondreams.org/news/2022/01/12/avert-global-nuclear-holocaust-us-groups-demand-abolition-icbms

Here is one more: https://secure.ucsusa.org/a/2022-urge-biden-keep-us-safe

Regarding the Non Proliferation Treaty, or NPT, the original five nuclear armed nations have just released this joint communication. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/01/03/p5-statement-on-preventing-nuclear-war-and-avoiding-arms-races/ for what it is worth. The 2020 NPT Review, as mentioned above, has been delayed again, and may or may not happen at UN Headquarters in NY later this year. No First Use Global has urged the treaty participants to take this simple step, in pledging not to launch the first nuclear weapon in future conflicts: https://nofirstuse.global/fulfil-the-npt-from-nuclear-threats-to-human-security/ . Our little group has endorsed this plea.

<u>Women's International League for Peace and Freedom</u> has published a brilliant <u>NPT Briefing Book</u> that addresses the issues the NPT Conference should be working on, and informs us all about how to understand what they are doing.

The **Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons**, or TPNW, is scheduled to hold its first meeting of signatory nations, or States Parties, in Vienna, March 22 to 24, 2022. https://www.icanw.org/tpnw first meeting of states parties.

There are now 59 States Parties, and they are gaining influence worldwide, with help from such global peace and justice organizations as https://www.dontbankonthebomb.com/.

The text of the treaty is here:

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This treaty is our best hope for a future world for our children and grandchildren to live in. Period. If this meeting becomes delayed due to Covid 19 we will try to keep you informed, or you can track its progress yourself by monitoring the Treaty website: https://www.icanw.org/.

Now I would like to commend our steering committee Bud Anderson, Julia Hurd, Kathleen Flanagan, and Wim Houppermans for their steadfast dedication and patience. While the pandemic continues to thwart our efforts for face to face gatherings, we strive to stay in communication. Long term planning goes on, and we revise those plans as necessary, but we are committed to the mission of providing information for advocacy, toward the abolition of all nuclear weapons. We know you are too. Thank you!

Please contact any one or all of us, with your ideas and suggestions, comments and complaints. We are Bud Anderson, budathome2012@hotmail.com, Julia Hurd, hurdjulia@gmail.com, Wim Houppermans, wh5314b@gmail.com, Kathleen Flanagan, tomflanagan1@comcast.net, and me tracy@nomorebombs.org Call or text me at 360-840-3826.

"Because there is global insecurity, nations are engaged in a mad arms race, spending billions of dollars wastefully on instruments of destruction, when millions are starving. Just a fraction of what is spent obscenely on defense budgets, would make the difference in enabling God's children to fill their stomachs, be educated, and given the chance, to lead happy and fulfilled lives."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

"Join with the Earth and each other, to bring new life to the land, to restore the waters, to refresh the air, to renew the forests, to care for the plants, to protect the creatures, to celebrate the seas, to rejoice in the sunlight, to sing of the stars, to recall our destiny, to renew our spirits, to reinvigorate our bodies, to recreate the human community, to promote justice and peace, to love our children and love one another, to join together as many and diverse expressions of one loving mystery, for the healing of the Earth and the renewal of all life."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

