

Ground Zero

February 2001

Volume 6 Issue 1

"We must narrow the gaping chasm between our proclamations of peace and our lowly deeds which precipitate and perpetuate war." — Martin Luther King Jr.

Living the dream of justice, joy, love & peace at Bangor

By Brian Watson

60 people gathered on January 15, 2001 to act on the vision of Martin Luther King Jr. at the gates of the Bangor Trident Submarine Base, the Pacific home for the Trident nuclear weapons system. The gathering was in solidarity with other nonviolent actions occurring at other Trident-related facilities across the US in the second annual National Day to Resist Trident.

In successive waves, three groups of people symbolically closed the Bangor base by stretching long banners across the 3-lane road leading to the base. A total of 20 people were arrested for blocking the road, 15 for blocking the road on Kitsap County property, and 5 for blocking the same road on the federal, Bangor base property. All 20 people were taken into custody, booked, and released, with the 5 federal arrestees all given lifetime ban & bar letters. The 15 arrested by Kitsap County Sheriffs have not yet been charged and were not given citations or future court dates. Since last year, County prosecutors have declined to charge people arrested for blocking the road to Bangor. Since 1985, Kitsap County prosecutors have been unable to convince juries and/or judges that such non-violent direct actions constitute crimes.

The symbolic closure of the Bangor base followed a ceremony at the Bangor gates, where people read passages from King's speeches and writings. Theologian, activist, and Ground Zero co-founder Jim Douglass addressed the gathering, as did former nuclear weapons scientist Andreas Toupadakis, who re-



Closing the road to Bangor, Wave 2: this time on the Federal side of the "Blue Line" (visible as a faint mark going across the road in the foreground). L to R: Gail Davis (Bremerton), Betsy Collins (Kingston), Bangor Security Guard, Rosemary Russell (Port Townsend), Kathryn Poole (Sedro Wooley), Estelle Davis (Bremerton). *Photo by Brian Watson*

signed from his position at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory on Jan. 16, 2000 for reasons of conscience. The ceremony ended with people hanging thousands of origami peace cranes on the chain-link, barbed-wire fence. The cranes were from Uzbekistan and were hung on the fence as a gift and a plea to the workers at Bangor. After the ceremony, the first "wave" of 6 people stretched their banner across the road (see page 2 for photo and quotes). The 6 people--Glen Milner (Seattle), Jacob Milner (15, Seattle), Emmie Johnson (Bellingham), Anna Brandt (Bellingham), Melissa Roberts (Bellingham), and Mary Hanson (Seattle)--held a banner which read: *"Bangor Closed! Trident Violates International Law!"* Unlike in past nonviolent road closure actions, Kitsap County Sheriffs officers did not immediately move to arrest the 6. The only officers in sight were two on the overpass, videotaping the action. The 6 stood, closing the base entrance for 20 or more minutes, while traffic backed up, before a caravan of several Kitsap County Sheriff's cars and van arrived to arrest them.



Closing the road to Bangor, Wave 3: these nine people closed the entrance on the County side of the "Blue Line." L to R: Mac Lojowsky (Tenino), Rochelle Gause (Tenino), Neva Welton (Bainbridge Island), Shirley Morrison (Seattle), Wendy Seman (Roy), Bradley Smith (Roy), Mack Johnson (Silverdale), Jackie Hudson (Bremerton), Joy Goldstein (Vashon Island). *Photo by Brian Watson*

After the road was cleared of the first "wave," the backed-up traffic proceeded into the base, except for one car, driven by a young man named Dustin. Instead of proceeding into the base like the rest of the cars behind and around him, he simply kept his vehicle turned off in solidarity, sitting still in the road, not moving until directly told to move by a Kitsap Sheriff's

Continued on page 3...

“...it is time to act in love, and act in courage...”

Voices from six people who took a stand

Editor's Note: *The following statements are taken from video by Mike McCormick of Network X Television and KOMU radio. Mike was only able to record statements from the six people below because the 14 others who blocked the road to Bangor that day were too quickly arrested. Many thanks to Mike for his documentation and reporting on many issues ignored by the corporate media.*

Glen Milner, age 46, Lake Forest Park, WA:

We're closing the entrance to the base. And it appears as though they're allowing us to do that, which is just fine. I've always dreamed of this day, actually, of coming out here—I've asked the Sheriffs not to come out here—I've always dreamed of this day of coming here, having the Sheriffs not arrive, and staying here. And there'd be other people I'm sure who would relieve us in the morning. Just permanently have an encampment in front of the base. We see a few Sheriffs here, but they may think this may somehow disappoint us, but it won't disappoint me at all. I can stay here a long time.

Emmie Johnson, age 22, Bellingham, WA:

This is one simple act, compared to so many other things people live in their daily lives: talking about war, talking about peace with the people they love, and with strangers in the way of letters and other acts of getting people talking in our communities about what war and peace mean. There are more of us, and we're all together. This is a momentous day, the anniversary of Martin Luther King's birth, it's part of that greater message, that we have to work together to make change in this world, and to preserve all of our futures.

Melissa Roberts, age 22, Bellingham, WA

This is a decision I've made in my life. I care so much about life, and the children who will come after us. That it is time to act in love, and act in courage, as Martin Luther King has shown us.

**Next Action at Bangor: "For All Mothers and All Children"
Mother's Day, Sun. May 13, 2001**
See enclosed flyer and story on p. 12 for details. Free brunch included!!!

Mary Hanson, age 54, Seattle, WA:

I want the world, the beautiful world that's right here in this wonderful community, to survive and thrive. What's behind me is a problem. I'm here to say I'm doing what I can about that problem, which is the Trident. This is what I feel I can do to stand up for what I believe in, which is the world, and the fact that we can live without Trident, and that we have to change our course.



Wave 1, Standing for life and love: Six people stand in the road, closing the Bangor Trident Submarine Base on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 15, 2001. The six in this group were the first of three "waves" of people to stand in the road leading to the Trident base. A total of 20 people were arrested for blocking the road. From L to R: Glen Milner, Jacob Milner, Anna Brandt, Melissa Roberts, Emmie Johnson, and Mary Hanson. *Photo by Brian Watson*

Anna Brandt, age 22, Bellingham, WA:

The reason I'm here is to shed a little light on the lunacy of our arms race, that Americans don't believe we need these, that we're not in support of these, and would rather be working for a peaceful world instead of having a country that can blow up our entire Earth and think that that's protecting us, that's in some way democratic for us, or safe for us, or the Earth. It's lunacy having all these arms.

Jacob Milner, age 15, Lake Forest Park, WA:

This is amazing actually that they're letting us stay out here this long. We'll stay out here as long as they'll let us, which is good.

On the road again...

Ground Zero goes to Washington, D.C.; Pentagon shaken, stirred

By Brian Watson

Ground Zero paid a visit to our nation's capitol in January, to attend the second meeting of the National Trident Resistance Network on Jan. 26 and the National Conference



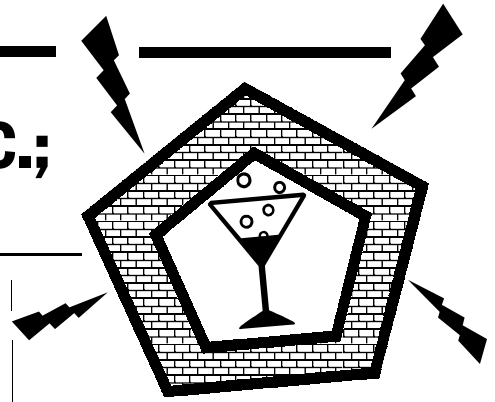
We got the goods: Jackie Hudson (L) and Joy Goldstein (R) at the Ground Zero information table at the National Conference on Organized Resistance at American University, Washington, D.C.
Photo by Brian Watson

on Organized Resistance on Jan. 27-28. Ground Zero members Joy Goldstein, Jackie Hudson, and Brian Watson were able to travel across the country and network with other activists thanks to a Trident Resistance Campaign grant by the Grand Rapids, MI Dominicans, which also paid for other activists' travel expenses, as well as for Trident Resistance Packets (thank you!).

On Friday Jan. 26, Jackie, Joy, and Brian met with other Trident Resistance Network activists from the east coast, including Sam Marshall from Millidgeville, Georgia, and Michelle Naar-Obed from Jonah House in Baltimore.

Activists Stephen Kobasa and Jackie Allen-Doucet, both of Connecticut, had planned to attend the meeting as well, but had serious family illnesses to care for. We wish both families well!

On Jan. 27-28, Jackie, Joy, and Brian attended the National Confer-



ence on Organized Resistance at American University in Washington DC. Ground Zero had an information table there, where we gave out Trident Resistance Packets, sold bumperstickers, and had conversations with some of the nearly 1,000 activists who were there. Most of those we spoke to had never even *heard* of Trident, except, of course, for the chewing gum. We told them that Trident is "much more than a gum," and proceeded to tell them what it really is, to their surprise and shock.

Shielding itself from the "truth force" of Ground Zero's presence, the Pentagon narrowly avoided an embracing wave of universal compassion. After repairs, it is reported that the Pentagon is back in business, under tightened security to prevent such "truth force" from breaching its fortress again.

Continued from page 1...

deputy.

A second "wave" of 5 people then blocked the road to Bangor for a second time, this time doing so on the federal Bangor base property. The five--Betsy Collins (Kingston), Gail Davis (Bremerton), Estelle Davis (Bremerton), Kathryn Poole (Sedro Wooley), and Rosemary Russell (Port Townsend)--held a banner which read: "*Because we celebrate life, we resist Trident!*" Bangor base security moved in right away to arrest them, taking them away one by one out of the road, until the road was again clear.

The third "wave" of 9 people followed, blocking the road on the County side of the "blue line," like the first group had done. The 9 people--Jackie Hudson (Bremerton), Mack Johnson (Silverdale), Neva Welton (Bainbridge Island), Bradley Smith (Roy), Wendy Seman (Roy), Rochelle Gause (Tenino), Mac Lojowsky (Tenino), Shirley Morrison (Seattle), and Joy Goldstein (Vashon

Island)--held a banner quoting King: "*When scientific power outruns moral power, we end up with guided missiles and misguided men.*" Again, traffic was stopped as the road was blocked. Sheriff's Deputies methodically led the 9 were from the road to the waiting Sheriff's vehicles.

Processing the 15 county arrestees took well into the evening and all were eventually released. Jacob Milner, age 15, was separated from the rest of the group and taken to Juvenile Detention, where he was placed in an empty jail cell, in amongst the general juvenile detention population, for 2 hours. While imprisoned, Jacob was subjected to derisive and taunting remarks from jail guards. Upon release, he was told to appear the next day at 1:30pm for a "hearing." Phone calls on Jacob's behalf by his parents, Glen and Karol Milner, to the Kitsap County Prosecutor's office, eventually led to Jacob not having to come in for that



Remembering Martin Luther King: Jim Douglass addresses the assembly while Bangor security guards listen in. On the right is former nuclear weapons scientist Andreas Toupadakis, who also addressed the gathering. Also pictured: Kathryn Poole (far left) and Elizabeth Roberts (near left). *Photo by Brian Watson*

"hearing," but not before he missed nearly a whole day of school. Prosecutors said they would send a summons if and when they want Jacob to appear in court.

Brian Watson is an artist from Bremerton and has been with Ground Zero for 8 years. He is the editor of this fine newsletter now in your hands.

'Friends in high places' conspire to neutralize dissent

Documents reveal government surveillance and containment plans & marine mammals with snorkels

By Glen Milner and Brian Watson

In June 2000, a handful of peace activists began to meet in an attempt to stop the Trident nuclear-armed submarine, USS Alabama, from coming to Seattle for SEAFAIR 2000, a month-long, city-wide festival. The primary focus was to lobby local governments, SEAFAIR and Navy Region Northwest. We decided if the Navy still insisted upon having the USS Alabama on the Seattle waterfront from August 2 through August 6, 2000, we would do our best to publicize the role of the Trident submarine system in the continuing threat of global nuclear war.

What resulted was a multi-level effort by the Port of Seattle, the U.S. Coast Guard, Navy Region Northwest and SEAFAIR to thwart our work. The blocking of a legally operated protest boat in Elliott Bay by the Coast Guard on August 2, 2000 prompted the filing of numerous Freedom of Information Act and Washington Public Disclosure Act requests. While requests for information have not all been processed, a number of issues are becoming clear--governmental bodies will work in unison when the threat becomes great enough. In this case, the threat was our ability to present the illegality and immorality of the Trident submarine system to the public.

A few of the numerous items that have surfaced:

■ On June 23, 2000, Lt. Cdr. Fenick, Navy Region Northwest, sent an e-mail to SEAFAIR and others, *"The plan for this year's SF Fleet Week is coming along very well, but the intention of the group identified below will do its best to interfere with the Fleet Week activities and make the news. That stated, if we, the City, SEAFAIR and the Navy coord [sic] early on, I believe we will establish coordinated credibility early on and prevent this group from using us to promote their efforts."* The "group identified below" was the Northwest Disarmament Coalition, comprised of Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, Washington Peace Action, Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, Community Action Network, and many other groups.

■ It appears the Navy was exhibiting a kind of schizophrenic duplicity with regard to the possibility of public awareness of and opposition to Trident. The boilerplate public relations line from the Navy was much like this Memorandum for Involved Parties, dated June 21, 2000 from Public Affairs: *"The Navy honors peaceful protests and demonstrations--this is what this country is about. The Department of Defense and*

the Department of the Navy have contributed to this luxury we live with every day."

The schizophrenia is particularly evident in the bizarre reasoning in this e-mail from Lt. Cdr. Fenick, dated June 23rd to Seafair and others: *"We, the Navy in the PNW, believe in Seattle, SEAFAIR and what we the Dept of the Navy represent. And most importantly we believe in the public's right to demonstrate and protest. I am concerned that if the City, SEAFAIR and the Navy are not working from the same sheet and are not 'holding hands' with regards to this issue, that all three of our organizations might be taken advantage of, and only for the promotion of this organizations cause."* There were many messages with this theme.

■ The Port of Seattle 2000 SEAFAIR Operations Plan stated: *"At meetings the Navy and Coast Guard have expressed the desire to handle any protesters/demonstrators with as much discretion as possible. The goal would be to allow the demonstrators as little exposure as possible."* To the public, Navy Region Northwest was saying quite the opposite. In an e-mail from Lt. Commander Fenick, dated July 26th, he reveals: *"Don't expect any dangerous protests, but instead an appeal to the public to support their cause."*

At almost every public relations opportunity, Navy officials stated that their purpose (and Trident) was to protect our right to free speech, not to try to contain and neutralize it.

The real reason for their concern was not so much about safety and security, but about a coalition of peace and justice groups effectively revealing the reality of Trident and generating public opposition to its celebratory visit to Seattle.

■ The Commander of Submarine Group 9 released a document on SEAFAIR with a threat assessment stating: *"NCIS [Naval Criminal Investigative Service] conducted a complex threat assessment. There were no significant threats associated with the USS Alabama visiting Seattle during SEAFAIR 2000. Nonetheless, we have essentially devoted our in port security drills and training during refit to scenarios in which protesters attempt to board, or a rogue tour group member attempts some form of sabotage."*

■ On June 29, 2000 an FBI and NCIS meeting was held in Seattle. Scheduled to attend were Rear Admiral Marshall and



Done deal: SEAFAIR President Beth Wojick receives plaque from Commander Wichert aboard USS Alabama entering Elliott Bay August 2, 2000. *Photo from a Freedom of Information Act response dated November 30, 2000 from Submarine Group 9, Sub Base Bangor*

Continued on page 5...

others of Navy Region Northwest, a special agent from the U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Service, others from the Navy and the Coast Guard and Beth Wojick, President of SEAFAIR, with two others from the SEAFAIR organization.

■ According to information released in Port of Seattle documents, it appears the threat assessment conducted by our government included the wiretapping of known nonviolent activists and/or the infiltration of small meetings.

Here is an e-mail from Lt. Commander William Fenick, dated June 14th to Rear Admiral Marshall and others: "Sir, want to go incognito and see what this is all about. I'm going to stop in for a coffee...my yellow rain jacket, maybe my Birkenstocks and wool socks and see what they have planned for us. Ahhhh, the beauties of having the best toys in the world. Seriously, I'll get this to SF, City of Seattle, etc. The reference to the old Mayor is bound to spark some interest...this is a challenge to the City of Seattle.

We'll see what Schell is really made of..." It is anyone's guess if indeed he was serious about donning wool socks to attend the Live Without Trident meetings. Still, the mere mention of infiltration from a Lt. Commander to a Rear Admiral shows, if nothing else, a deep contempt for citizen democracy.

In other documents, it is revealed that security officials knew in advance of plans by protesters to rent or charter a boat to greet the Alabama when it came on August 2. The only way they could have known about this was if they had sent infiltrators to meetings and/or put taps on phones.

■ In July 2000, Seattle City Councilmember Richard Conlin presented a resolution to keep nuclear-armed warships out of Seattle. At a packed special City Council meeting on July 31, 2000, approximately 80 percent of those present were in favor of the resolution. There was concern about Radio KVI's efforts to get people to the meeting in support of the USS Alabama at SEAFAIR. The resolution was never voted on, but would have failed 4 to 5. An explanation given was that those who served in the armed forces would feel insulted.

■ A Public Disclosure Act request to Seattle Mayor Schell in November 2000 showed that 95 percent of all messages to his office had been in favor of Richard Conlin's proposal. Counting signatures on petitions, the number in favor was 98 percent. Richard Conlin said his messages were also in the "90 percent plus" range in favor of his resolution. The real reason the resolution failed was more because of SEAFAIR corporate sponsorships and the Trident nuclear submarine system than concerns for veterans.

■ Opposition to Richard Conlin's resolution even enlisted

the aid of U.S. Representative Norm Dicks, who called members of the Seattle City Council. Bob Watt, SEAFAIR Board Chair and President and CEO of Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce said in an e-mail dated August 3, 2000 to Beth Wojick, President of SEAFAIR, "Norm Dicks' office called to say that the Congressman had made his call and that 'they have decided not to vote on the issue.' Nice to have friends in high places... it looks as if we have won this round none the less we still need to build our muscles against this fight in the future!!" The "fight in the future," of which Mr. Watt so zealously speaks, is for the right of free speech for citizens in Seattle.

Mr. Watt was correct. The City Council never took the vote on Councilmember Conlin's resolution to keep nuclear-armed warships out of Seattle.

Other items:

■ A recording of Port of Seattle Police transmissions revealed a concern that swimmers were trying to reach the USS Alabama as it came into Elliott Bay. The recording stated: (COMMAND): "Harbor 10, if you don't have a visual, according to Navy 2, subject still in the water with snorkel gear. You should be straight on with them." (HARBOR 10): "I think we have located them. They are just off the southeast corner of [Pier] 91... but it's not a swimmer; it's seals I think." (COMMAND): "With snorkel gear?" (HARBOR 10): "Yep."

■ A somewhat elaborate plan to deal with demonstrators at the SEAFAIR Torchlight Parade was developed. Regarding this, Beth Wojick of SEAFAIR states, "We have a meeting scheduled with police con-

tacts to discuss the plans we will need to put in order to contain the protesters. We will be hiring extra security in and around the television area as well." Beth Wojick was also considering pulling a Navy officer as driver of Mayor Schell's car for fear of the two being targeted with eggs. Demonstrators never even showed up at the Torchlight Parade to test these plans.

No confirmation has yet been attained on whether the Navy will try to send another Trident sub to 2001 SEAFAIR, although rumor has it that they just might.



USS Alabama docked at Pier 91 during Seafair 2000 complete with 24 Trident I missiles and 192 W76 100 kiloton nuclear warheads. The USS Alabama is one of four Trident submarines at Bangor scheduled to be backfitted to the newer Trident II (D-5) missile. *Photo from a Freedom of Information Act response dated November 30, 2000 from Submarine Group 9, Sub-Base Bangor*

Glen Milner is a real investigative journalist who is continuing to follow this story closely. He lives with his wife Karol and son Jacob in Lake Forest Park, WA, with their two other children attending college. Thanks to Glen's Freedom of Information Act requests and research, the Seattle Weekly is writing a story on this, based on Glen's work.

“Silence Trident” direct disarmament action needs your support

Trident to be put on trial (with your help)

Trial begins for activists who cut down Trident transmitter poles at ELF site in Wisconsin

By John LaForge

A crucial piece of the US nuclear arsenal—Project ELF (Extreme Low Frequency)—is secluded in Wisconsin’s Chequamegon National Forest. Project ELF’s function is to threaten and to signal a secret Trident missile attack against another’s weapons *before they are launched*—in a “decapitating” nuclear *first strike*. The ELF system was built because it is part of the Pentagon’s terrible plans for a *preemptive* nuclear war. And since the law forbids aggression and preparations for aggression, ELF is not only provocative but also illegal. A World Court opinion and the Geneva Conventions make it so.

That’s why Bonnie Urfer and Michael Sprong trained the spotlight of justice on this “Trident trigger” with their nonviolent disarmament action. Using a pair of bow saws last June 24, they toppled three of the poles that suspend the antenna, taking the dangerous and illegal system off line. They tacked to the poles a Citizen’s Indictment of Project ELF reminding everyone that US law prohibits the planning of massacres or indiscriminate war. The “Silence Trident” pole cutting was an act of crime prevention.

The real crime is this: Project ELF is the Navy’s one-way command post for sending orders to Tridents—the most destructive war machines in human history. Aboard 18 Trident submarines there are 384 warheads with 475-kilotons of nuclear firepower, along with 3,072 100-kiloton warheads. Like a giant gun that’s cocked, the fleet constantly threatens mass destruction thanks to the communications “trigger” provided by Project ELF. All told, the Trident missile fleet holds the equivalent of 32,640 Hiroshima bombs. With 140,000 people killed outright at Hiroshima, the mathematical terror of Trident is that the fleet could kill 4.5 billion people—almost the entire population of the world.



Crime prevention: Bonnie Urfer (L) and Michael Sprong (R) saw into one of the three wooden poles they cut down at the Extreme Low Frequency (ELF) transmitter array on June 24, 2000, taking it off-line. The poles suspend miles of antenna wire that pulse with electricity, sending coded messages to deeply-submerged Trident submarines, enabling them to coordinate a nuclear first-strike. Located in the Chequamegon National Forest in northern Wisconsin, the ELF transmitter acts as a nuclear war “trigger” for the Trident nuclear weapons system.

Rather than investigate the allegations made in the Citizen’s Indictment, the police took the papers to the evidence room and Bonnie and Michael to jail. They’ve been charged in federal court with criminal damage to property, and they face a year in prison and a \$100,000 fine. Both are free pending trial, which is set for Feb. 20 in Madison, Wisconsin.

The government will try to prevent any defense testimony that refers to the object of the protest. The government wants to ignore the Citizen’s Indictment and pretend this is a case of vandalism or horseplay. That’s the only way the US Attorney can protect Trident and ELF from the plain fact that nuclear weapons are instruments of a crime.

We need your financial help to bring expert witnesses to Madison to explain to a jury why Trident and ELF are illegal, why nuclear war plans are an ongo-

ing criminal enterprise, and why Bonnie and Michael were privileged to use nonviolent force against ELF.

The history of disarmament cases shows that if juries hear the evidence, the government is incapable of defending the Trident system.

Please be part of this historic and courageous nonviolent action and help put Trident on trial.

Send donations to:

The Progressive Foundation

PO Box 649

Luck, WI 54853

Thanks for your concern and generosity.

John La Forge is a staff member of Nukewatch, which is part of the Trident Resistance Network. For more information, contact Nukewatch at: Web <http://www.nukewatch.com>

Trident resistance across the sea

Trident put on trial, more acquittals, blockades, & British baloney

TRIDENT PUT ON TRIAL IN U.K. HIGH COURT

On October 9, 2000 a review of the Greenock trial and acquittal of the Trident Three began in the High Court in Edinburgh, Scotland. Called a "Lord Advocate's Reference" (LAR), in essence it is a government appeal by the back door against the Greenock trial verdict by Sheriff Margaret Gimblett in October 1999.

That ground-shaking verdict found that three women - Ulla Roder, Ellen Moxley, and Angie Zelter - who destroyed Trident testing equipment in Scotland were not guilty of a crime. The judge (called a "Sheriff" in Scotland) cited the historic 1996 International Court of Justice ruling that declared "the use or the threat to use nuclear weapons" violates international humanitarian law. Sheriff Gimblett further ruled that the three were acting against an illegal weapons system, in accordance with their legal rights and duties under the Nuremberg Principles and other international law.

While it cannot actually overturn the women's acquittal, a negative outcome of the LAR would obviously carry the implication that the three women should have been found guilty.

A positive outcome - one which finds Sheriff Gimblett's ruling to be correct - could set a revolutionary legal precedent. Such an outcome would, in effect, be a legal declaration from one of UK's highest courts that the Trident program is a violation of the law, and that citizens have the right and duty to try to stop that violation.

A Trident Ploughshares spokesperson said: "There has been a lot of encouragement for us so far but we still do not know whether these judges are up to the challenge before them. We are pleased that Trident's status before the law is being debated in the court but there has been a great deal of nit-picking and prevarication. If a panel of three children were picked at random off the streets of Edinburgh and asked to consider whether it is right or legal to threaten to murder innocent people and whether ordinary folk have a legal right to try and stop such a crime, they would come up with the right answer in less than five minutes. Children understand that real law is based on morality."

A verdict from the LAR is expected in February 2001.

For more information on Trident resistance across the sea, visit the Trident Ploughshares website at www.tridentploughshares.org. You can receive e-mail updates on this and other Trident resistance by contacting Trident Resistance Network member Stephen Kobasa at skobasa@snet.net

DISARMERS NOT GUILTY VICTORY IN TRIDENT CONSPIRACY TRIAL

Sylvia Boyes (57), a peace campaigner from Keighley in Yorkshire and River, an Open University tutor from Manchester, attempted in November 1999 to decommission the Trident submarine Vengeance when it was undergoing pre-operational testing in Barrow docks.

After five hours deliberation the jury were unable to reach a unanimous verdict. They were then asked by Judge Rhys Davies to try for a majority verdict which they very quickly did.

The verdict was greeted with delight by activists. Rachel Wenham, who is herself waiting retrial after disarming the same submarine in February 1999, said: "At long last we have got justice from the English courts. The verdict shows that when ordinary British people are given the chance to decide on Trident and the rights of activist to intervene they are willing to be led by their conscience."

A Trident Ploughshares spokesperson added: "This is a great encouragement to us all and will convince yet more people that they too can have a part to play in getting rid of Trident. There's no doubt that Trident's embattled defenders will be feeling even more unsure of their legal position. The disarming work goes on!"

HOLY NUCLEAR BALONEY!

THE SAD BUT TRUE STORY OF THE BRITISH TRIDENT SUB PROGRAM

Did you know that the United Kingdom has its very own fleet of nuclear missile-launching submarines? Did you know that these subs are called "Trident" subs, just like the US Trident subs? Did you know that the UK's Trident subs are armed with exactly the same missile that most US Trident subs are loaded with? Coincidence? Nope. The UK *leases* Trident II (D5) missiles *from* the US to load onto its fleet of four Trident submarines. The UK has title to 58 such missiles, which come from a "missile pool" at (where else?) the east coast Trident base at King's Bay, Georgia. A missile that is deployed on a US Trident sub may at a later date deploy on a British sub, or vice versa. How's that for nuclear non-proliferation?! The British fleet of four subs, based at the Faslane base near Glasgow, Scotland, carry a total of 185 100-kiloton warheads, which comprise the entire nuclear arsenal for the UK. By comparison, each US Trident (there are 18) is armed with 192 warheads, for a total of 3,456, some of which are 100-kiloton, some 475-kiloton.

BRITISH TRIDENT BASE CLOSED FOR A DAY

Over 300 arrested at Faslane

Oscar winning actress Emma Thompson was among the many public figures giving their support to the blockade of the Faslane British Trident base on February 12th, 2000, which closed the base for up to 10 hours, with over 300 people arrested and 1,000 people present.

She said: "For a long time I have known - not just thought, but known in my heart of hearts that nuclear weapons are the useless, dangerous, paranoid and wasteful product of a society mired in its incapacity to commit to peace. The action in Faslane will be a real contribution to a safe, nuclear-free world and I support it entirely. Let the world listen and learn from this protest. We don't want nuclear weapons on our soil. Get rid of them."

Among those joining activists at Faslane on the 12th were a group of church leaders, includ-

ing the Moderator of the Church of Scotland and representatives from a number of denominations. They were accompanied by 50 ministers of religion from Scotland, many of whom indicated their willingness to be arrested. Also ready to face arrest are Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) Tommy Sheridan and MEP Caroline Lucas. Other MSPs were there, including Sandra White, Robin Harper, John McAllion, Bruce Crawford, Dorothy-Grace Elder and Fiona Hyslop, while other parliamentarians pledged their support. Also present were writer AL Kennedy and sculptor George Wylie.

A Trident Ploughshares spokesperson said: "The blockade will widen still further the cracks that are showing in public and official complacency about Trident. There is a growing recognition that it is illegal and an acceptance that ordinary citizens have a right and a duty to intervene where they can."

Last year's blockade resulted in 186 arrests, clogging the local court system, including the arrest of Ground Zero member Bernie Meyer.

This page will inspire and infuriate you...

Updates on Plowshares, Iraq direct actions

Pentagon pig-out 2000

SACRED EARTH AND SPACE PLOWSHARES 2000 UPDATE

The September 9, 2000 disarmament action at Peterson AFB, CO, home of the US Space Command, has resulted in dismissed State charges and no Federal charges to date. Local authorities in Colorado



Sacred Earth & Space Plowshares 2000: from left to right: Liz Walters, Anne Montgomery, Carol Gilbert, Jackie Hudson, and Ardeth Platte.

Springs, CO, however, refuse to release the evidence gathered at the site stating that word has not been received that the federal prosecutors intend to drop all charges.

Initial statements from the military estimated that the damage to the F/A 18 Hornet fighter jet used extensively in bombing Iraq, and a field receiver dish for the \$36 Billion Milstar communications satellite was between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Since their release from the El Paso County Jail in Colorado Springs, CO the five women are carrying out their pledge, to continue unmasking the U.S. plan of dominance and exploitation of space in violation of the Outer Space Treaty of 1967.

Speaking engagements are welcome on this topic. Participants in this Plowshare action reside on the east coast, mid-west, and the state of Washington. Please contact: Jackie Hudson at Ground Zero, (360) 377-2586 or jackie@gzcenter.org.

Editor's Note: Resistance to nuclear power and weapons in space is heating up across the world. Contact the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space at: 352-337-9274; PO Box 90083, Gainesville, FL 32607; Globalnet@mindspring.com www.space4peace.org. See page 12 for more actions.

DIRECT ACTION TO END IRAQ SANCTIONS

Eight people who boldly demonstrated the effects of US sanctions against Iraq will appear before US Magistrate in US District Court on Feb. 15, 2001. The eight will plead not guilty to charges of failing to comply with a lawful order. for "dying" inside the Federal Building in Seattle on Dec. 15, 2000.

The eight—Jennifer Brownell, Seattle; Wes Howard-Brook, Seattle; Jackie Hudson, Bremerton; Andrea Langeland, Seattle; Brian Mack, Seattle; Maggie Pheasant, Seattle; Don Read, Seattle; and Rosemary Russell, Port Townsend—entered the Federal Building on Dec. 15, during the advent season, - and "died," laying face-down on the floor in front of the main elevators. On their backs were signs which read: "End Sanctions Now." When told by security

officials to get up and move, the eight "played dead," refusing to acknowledge their presence. They were arrested, booked, and released later that day.

The sanctions against Iraq have been called "the economic nuclear bomb." Sanctions are responsible for killing 5,000 children per month in Iraq. Since 1990, when the Gulf War began, over 2,000,000 Iraqi civilians have died because of the military and economic war against Iraq.

Take action to end the sanctions: your voice is needed to put an end to this silent form of warfare, whose victims are the most vulnerable in Iraq. Join the Campaign of Conscience for the Iraqi People. **Contact:** Fellowship of Reconciliation, PO Box 271, Nyack NY 10960; 845-358-4601; www.forusa.org; info@forusa.org or American Friends Service Committee, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102; 215-241-7170; www.afsc.org; askaboutiraq@afsc.org

DON'T WORRY...IT'S ONLY MONEY: WAR BUSINESSES BELLY UP TO THE TROUGH IN 2000

PRESS ADVISORY from the United States Department of Defense No. 025-P, January 24, 2001



The Department of Defense announced today that the fiscal year 2000 listing of the 100 companies receiving the largest dollar volume of prime contract awards is now available on the Web at:

"http://web1.whs.osd.mil/peidhome/procstat/p01/fy2000/top100.htm"

The top ten defense contractors for

fiscal year 2000 and the dollar value (in billions) of their prime contracts are as follows:

1. Lockheed Martin Corp. (\$15.1)
2. The Boeing Co. (\$12.0)
3. Raytheon Corp. (\$6.3)
4. General Dynamics Corp. (\$4.1)
5. Northrop Grumman Corp. (\$3.1)
6. Litton Industries Inc. (\$2.7)
7. United Technologies Corp. (\$2.1)
8. TRW Inc. (\$2.0)
9. General Electric Co. (\$1.6)
10. Science Applications International Corp. (\$1.5)

Editor's Note: GACK! EEF-GADS! Note that the main manufacturers of the Trident system, Lockheed and General Dynamics, are in the top four. Such little gems are courtesy of Stephen Kobasa, a Trident Resistance Network member in Connecticut. To receive such items by e-mail, and many other great things going on in the Trident resistance movement, contact Stephen Kobasa at: skobasa@snet.net.

Thank you letters, pork sightings, & button-pushing

A LETTER OF THANKS

Dear Ground Zero,

I read in today's Sun newspaper about your nonviolent yet eminently heroic action commemorating Martin Luther King Jr. Day. I have searched for many years for a suitable community service to perform on this day off from school (yes, I am a student), but I have to admit that I think your choice of peaceful protest in the aim of increasing awareness of nuclear Armageddon is the best I have yet found.

As a child I used to dream of an horrific expanding black sphere. I felt powerless to even attempt to look at it, yet alone push it back, but in my dreams it went from merely an expanding emptiness to an encroaching one, in that I quickly found I had run out of room, and that it was all around me. I grew up 'under the mushroom cloud' so to speak and I cannot say that I have not worried about this issue.

For these reasons and others I would like to receive your newsletter so that I may participate in whatever future protest actions you organize. Thank you very much for having the courage to speak out about the end of the world. The ability to confront death --some have said-- defines us as human, but all too often it appears that we fail to accept this burden. You have done so, and it gives the rest of us gumption to do the same.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Conor Flynn, Port Orchard, WA

ANOTHER LETTER OF THANKS (WOW!)

Dear Ground Zero,

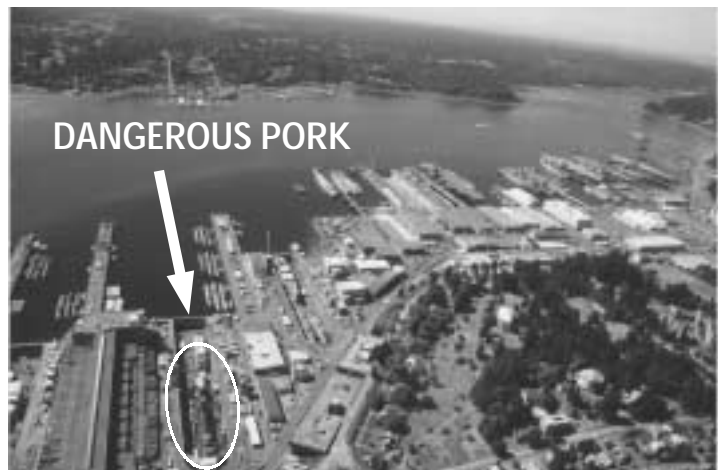
Wendy and I just wanted to say THANK YOU to all involved with Ground Zero for welcoming us into your community and embracing our ideas as your own. You are the most inspiring group of individuals we have come into contact with thus far in our lives. The admiration we feel for you is beyond words. To be involved with Ground Zero, to see your work and dedication on behalf of humanity was, to say the least, an enlightening experience. Again we thank you for allowing us to become part of something we have felt we belonged to for some time. Please keep us informed. If there is anything we can do, please let us know. We are a part of this and plan to remain active in the fight against nuclear weapons.

Thanks again and keep Fighting the Good Fight. Peace and Love,

—Brad Smith (age 24, "Student of Life and Liberty"), Roy, WA,

—Wendy Semon (age 24, High School English Teacher,) Roy, WA.

SPOT THE SUB GRAND PRIZE WINNERS



Congratulations to Martin Fleck, Executive Director of Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility for correctly identifying the USS Alaska in the above photo of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash. The USS Alaska is the first of four Trident subs that are to be refitted to deploy larger, longer-range, and more accurate (and expensive--\$60 million each!) Trident II D-5 nuclear missiles. The total cost for the Trident upgrade will exceed \$9 billion in short-term expenses alone, and more that \$20 billion in long-term costs. Martin won a free "Abolish Nuclear Weapons" bumpersticker and has a future in satellite spying if peace activism doesn't pan out! Honorable mention to Dick Arnold of Federal Way too. Even though Dick misidentified the Alaska, we sent him a free sticker anyway. Lesson? It always pays to play.

P.S. Oh, by the way, the second Trident submarine to start the Trident II (D5) missile conversion entered Puget Sound Naval Shipyard on Feb. 1, 2001. The USS Nevada will now begin the 18-month conversion process. We found out about the Nevada entering the Shipyard only after it happened. The Navy refused to disclose to the public when it would be steaming into the Shipyard, secretly moving it from Sub Base Bangor to Bremerton's PSNS. Do you or someone you know live on Hood Canal? Call us.

PUT YOUR FINGER ON THE (PHONE) BUTTON

CALL NOW TO DE-ALERT NUCLEAR WEAPONS



The US and Russia are still courting nuclear disaster, and the risk of accidental nuclear war is increasing. Why? The US and Russia still have some 5,000 nuclear weapons on hair-trigger alert. Like two gunfighters, each is staring down the barrel of the ultimate weapon of mass destruction, fingers tensed on the trigger, ready to shoot at the first sign that the other is firing. Join the growing worldwide Back From the Brink Campaign to take all nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert. Call the President (202-456-1414) and tell him: "I urge you to reduce the danger of accidental nuclear war by working with the Russians to get all nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert." Join the Campaign! Call:

1-877-552-3723; log on: www.backfromthebrink.org; write: 6856 Eastern Ave. Suite 322, Washington, D.C. 20012

Anti-Nuclear Shorts...

Resources to get active, & ballistic balloon on parade

TRIDENT RESISTANCE CAMPAIGN PACKETS NOW AVAILABLE FOR FREE

Grab this great resource! Ground Zero has developed a handy Trident Resistance Campaign packet, loaded with information about Trident, and resources to help you take action. They even come with a bumpersticker!

The best part is that they are absolutely FREE to you!

All you have to do to get your very own Trident Resistance Campaign packet, call Ground Zero at 360-377-2586; e-mail to info@gzcenter.org; or check the blank on the response form on p. 11 and send it to Ground Zero at 16159 Clear Creek Rd. NW, Poulsbo, WA 98370.

BOOK OFFER... DISCIPLES AND DISSIDENTS: Prison Writings of the Prince Of Peace Plowshares

A collection of scriptural commentaries, reflections and art work by Phil Berrigan, Steve Baggaly, Mark Colville, Susan Crane, Rev. Stephen Kelly, SJ, and Tom Lewis Borbely, with a forward by Howard Zinn.

This book is a product of a prison Bible study organized by the Plowshares while doing time for their act of disarmament on a Navy battleship on Ash Wednesday, 1997.

Written from the perspective of prisoners in the U.S. empire's jails, this book both elucidates the socio-political context in which the New Testament was written, and clarifies the contemporary Christian's responsibility to sacrifice self in resistance to a warmaking state. It is an excellent resource for group study and personal spiritual development.

Copies are available from Ground Zero for \$17.95 plus postage. To order: call Jackie at (360) 377-2586, send an e-mail to jackie@gzcenter.org; or note your order on the response form on p. 11 and mail to Ground Zero.

MISSILE PARADED THROUGH SEATTLE

Tourists trapped into explaining missile madness to their kids

Story and photo by Rosemary Brodie

On Saturday October 7 a nylon replica of a Trident missile was paraded through downtown Seattle carried by 6-8 folks in a demonstration organized by **Peace Action** for the International Day of Protest and Resistance to Nuclear Weapons. On that day the emphasis was on stopping the development of the **National Missile Defense** project by our government. I followed behind distributing leaflets and taking photos. This nylon missile be-

ster across a Seattle street. This left me to decide whether to run on across the intersection and risk arrest by the 2 bicycle police nipping at my heels or wait for the next green light and run to catch up. Whew!

After our expedition through the streets, Victor Steinbrueck Park was a perfect venue for showing off the Missile. The effectiveness of this monster balloon in getting the attention of otherwise disinterested tourists, shoppers,



longs to the **Ground Zero Community** and it makes appearances anywhere it's needed to help people visualize the insanity of nuclear weapons. 24 such missiles with 8 nuclear weapons apiece are carried on Trident nuclear submarines. This gives the subs the capacity to deliver the equivalent of one thousand Hiroshima bombs. The mega-balloon missile replica can travel to its destination in a smallish carton and then be carried on wheels or by hand, continuously inflated by a little motor, and carrying appropriate banners on its sides.

I discovered that it takes exactly one full traffic light change to get this mon-

and even military personnel was amazing. Tourists were trapped into trying to explain to their kids what it was all about. We got leaflets into the hands of anyone who passed by or was caught relaxing and drinking beer on the waterfront. Lots of tourists went home with photos of this thing in their cameras.

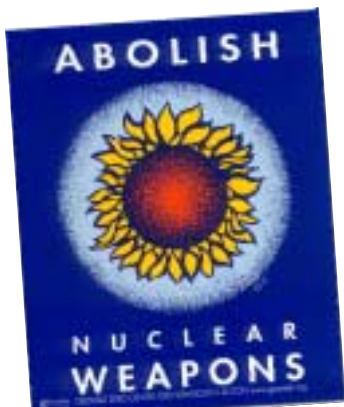
Rosemary Brodie is a long-time peace activist and retired physician with a great sense of humor. She is well-known to all Seattle bike-cops. This article first appeared in Seattle Women Act for Peace's second-to-last newsletter. SWAP folded at the end of 2000 after nearly 40 years of working for peace and justice. Thank you SWAP!

PACIFIC LIFE RESEARCH CENTER PAPERS NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE

The best research available anywhere on Trident and many other nuclear weapons and military issues is now available on-line!

Bob Aldridge of Pacific Life Research Center (PLRC) has made his research papers available via the Ground Zero website, www.gzcenter.org. You can also subscribe to automatically receive PLRC papers by sending Bob an e-mail to janbob1@yahoo.com.

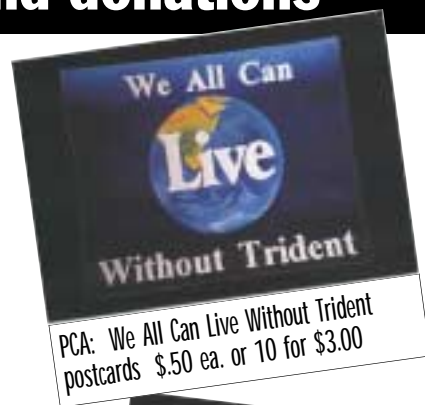
T-Shirts, bumperstickers, postcards, and donations



BS: 4"x5" vinyl bumpersticker; white lettering on dark blue background with yellow sunflower in the middle. Price: \$.25ea., 10 for \$2, or 50 for \$10.



TSC: Hefty T's -Purple with white lettering
 Front: We All Can Live Without Trident
 Back: Nobody needs a nuclear weapon
 Sizes: S, L, XL
 \$14 ea., 2 for \$25, or \$10 ea. for 5 or more



PCA: We All Can Live Without Trident postcards \$.50 ea. or 10 for \$3.00

TSD: Hefty T's -White with black lettering

Front: Resist Trident-Abolish Nuclear Weapons

Back: Sow the Seeds of Peace
 Sizes: S, M, L, XL
 \$14 ea., 2 for \$25, or \$10 ea. for 5 or more



PCB: Abolish Nuclear Weapons-Resist Trident postcards \$.50 ea. or 10 for \$3.00

Your orders and donations to the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action are helping build the Trident Resistance Network and a growing movement to resist Trident and abolish nuclear weapons. Each dollar you send to Ground Zero helps build this movement: by paying for phone calls, postage, printing, networking expenses, utilities, and much more.

| Item # | Quantity | Size | Description | Price Each | TOTAL |
|---|----------|------|-------------|------------|-------|
| | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to order the following items: | | | | | |
| Shipping: please add \$3.00/shirt, \$.50 for each set of 10 postcards and/or bumperstickers = | | | | | |

Enclosed is my contribution toward the nonviolent work of Ground Zero. \$_____ **TOTAL =**

Please call me; I want to start leafleting at Bangor _____, in Seattle _____, or elsewhere _____

Please send me _____ free Trident Campaign Organizing Packets.

Please contact me about having a Ground Zero speaker come to speak to my group, church, union.

Please contact me about bringing the inflatable missile to my town.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State/Prov: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____ Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming events and actions

GZ COMING TO A TOWN NEAR YOU...

Feb. 25, 2001, 10:30am: Brian Watson is the guest speaker at the North Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in North Vancouver, BC, Canada. More info: brian@gzcenter.org.

March 15, 2001, 7pm: Mother's Day Action Information & Preparation Meeting, Parlor Room, University Baptist Church, University District, Seattle (corner of 47th St. & 12th Ave. NE). More info: 206-365-7865

March 25, 2001, 5pm: Jackie Hudson will be giving a special presentation at Rainier Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, Seattle. More info: jackie@gzcenter.org

April 7, 2001, 10am-12 noon: Mother's Day Action Information & Preparation Meeting, Shoreline Library, 345 175th St. in Shoreline; (take 175th St. Exit off I-5; turn east on 175th; library is 2 blocks down on the right). More info: 206-365-7865

GLOBALIZE PEACE, NOT CORPORATE WAR

**May 19, 2001, Confront the Warmakers
Vandenberg AFB, CA**

Resistance Camp May 18-23, 2001

Direct action to stop the militarization of space. Info:
www.geocities.com/vafb_m19; 831-421-9794

For All Mothers and All Children:

**Mother's Day Action at Bangor to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
SUNDAY MAY 13, 2001; 10AM-3PM, GROUND ZERO**

“Our husbands shall not come to us reeking with carnage... Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience.



We women of one country will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs.”

— Julia Ward Howe

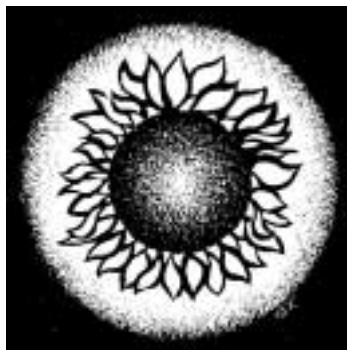
Everyone has a mother. We are all children of Mother Earth. Nuclear weapons threaten all life and endanger all the hard work to nurture life. We mothers, fathers, daughters, and sons refuse to be silent. Anyone who cares for life: Come to Ground Zero to take nonviolent direct action to demand the abolition of Trident and all nuclear weapons. **See enclosed flyer for details.** Bring your loved ones.

GROUND ZERO

**Ground Zero Center
for Nonviolent Action
16159 Clear Creek Road NW
Poulsbo WA 98370**

**Website: www.gzcenter.org
E-mail: info@gzcenter.org
Phone: 360-377-2586**

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