

Ground Zero

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The Centrality of Trident to the U.S. Nuclear Posture

By Leonard Eiger

The new year got off to a wild start geopolitically. Amidst the heated and inflammatory rhetoric between North Korea (DPRK) and the United States, along with the Trump administration's hostility towards the Iran nuclear accord, the U.S. announced its new Nuclear Posture Review and the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists announced that it was setting the hands of the Doomsday Clock a half minute closer to midnight. And while this was all happening, there was a false missile alert in Hawaii that had people scrambling for cover ahead of the impending doom.

As for tensions with the DPRK, thanks to a groundswell of citizen support and the efforts of the

South Korean people and government, things have calmed down for the moment. We might even see a meeting between President Trump and Premier Kim in the near future. We can only hope that it will produce something more substantial than new material for Saturday Night Live.

Whether or not the U.S. and South Korea hold (provocative) joint military exercises after the 2018 Winter Paralympics in South Korea, it is highly likely that there are currently as many as two OHIO Class "Trident" ballistic missile submarines patrolling in the

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Western Pacific, probably not far from the Korean Peninsula. Those Trident submarines are prepared, at the President's command, to launch any number of their Trident II D5 ballistic missiles, each armed with multiple thermonuclear warheads.

Trident continues, as it has for decades, to be the centerpiece of U.S. nuclear force projection around the world. And that fact has been driven home once again by the 2018 Nuclear Posture Review (NPR): "Ballistic missile submarines [Tridents] are the most survivable leg of the [nuclear] triad. When on patrol, SSBNs are, at present, virtually undetectable, and there are no known, near-term credible threats to the survivability of the SSBN force."

A particularly noteworthy, and laughable, statement by the NPR is that nuclear modernization is "long overdue." President Obama had already put modernization on the fast track, estimated to cost over \$1.2 trillion over 30 years. And Trident has figured prominently in U.S. nuclear modernization efforts.

The Trident submarines themselves, while originally designed for 30-year service lives, were later certified for 42-year service lives. The D5 missile has been undergoing technical upgrades to ensure its viability to at least 2042. Improvements to the D5 include the guidance system; the Mk-4 and Mk-5 re-entry bodies, which are the part of the missile that houses a thermonuclear warhead; and engineering of a new release assembly, which houses and releases both re-entry bodies.

The Trident D5 missile carries both the W76 (100 kiloton) and W88 (455 kiloton) warhead. The W76-1 Life Extension Program delivered the first refurbished (essentially new and improved) warhead for deployment in 2009, and extended the originally designed warhead service life of 30 years to 60 years.

Refurbishment of the W76 includes requalifying the plutonium pit, replacing the primary high-explosive, a new (and vastly improved) arming, fuzing and firing (AF&F) system, and a new gas transfer system. The W88 is undergoing its own refurbishment program similar to the W76.

The planning and development of the Navy's new (and improved) fleet of ballistic missile submarines, the Columbia Class, which has been in the works for



The centerpiece of the U.S. nuclear force. The USS Alaska at a loading wharf. *Photo courtesy of www.navy.mil.*

roughly a decade, is, at very least, a vastly improved nuclear capability. The program is now well underway with contracts being awarded to the major contractors to prepare to start construction. The production schedule is being planned to deliver a total of 12 new submarines to coincide with retirement of the existing submarines. The program will likely cost at least \$128 billion, adjusted for inflation.

Of course, how can you have new submarines without new missiles? The 2018 draft NPR confirms what many already know – the Navy, in addition to building a new submarine, is also planning on “the timely replacement of the D5 SLBM.” The current D5 “life extension” will allow existing missiles to be deployed until 2042. The Navy plans to begin studies in 2020 on a replacement that will be viable for the life of New Trident.

The U.S. certainly has developed new nuclear capabilities since the end of the Cold War, thus countering the false statement in the 2018 NPR that the U.S. has developed “no new nuclear capabilities.” And one in particular is groundbreaking.

Just last year the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists blew the lid off what the US government has euphemistically called it’s “Life Extension Program” for the W76 thermonuclear warhead. The article, [*“How US nuclear force modernization is undermining strategic stability: The burst-height compensating super-fuze.”*](#) shows how the US military, under the guise of its “life-extension program” – allegedly intended to increase the safety and reliability of nuclear warheads – has vastly increased the ability of warheads to detonate closer to their intended targets.

The heart of the rebuilt W76 and its increased kill capacity is the new MC4700 arming, fuzing and firing system. This new system essentially gives the W76 capabilities it never had before; that is the capability to hit hardened targets – specifically Russian ICBM silos – with three times greater accuracy than before. If that’s not a “new nuclear capability,” then I don’t know what is! The development and deployment of the “super-fuze” was a huge development that has only served to drive the Russians to work for nuclear parity (or superiority), thereby seriously undermining strategic stability and increasing the risk of nuclear war.

Of all the crazy ideas in the 2018 NPR, and there are a few, the most insane of all is the plan to field a low-yield warhead on the D5 missiles deployed on Trident submarines. This would be done by modifying the existing W76 warhead to reduce its explosive yield. Of

“The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review signals a return to a dangerous Cold War mentality and introduces new, destabilizing concepts.”

For Love of Our Earth: Join Ground Zero in Seattle

By Michael "Firefly" Siptroth

Calling all Ground Zero allies supporters: Join in our Earth Day Rally and March, Saturday April 21, 2018 from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm at Westlake Park in Seattle for peace, justice, and our Earth!

We begin at 11:00 am at West Lake Park with Senji Kanaeda and the Nipponzan Mochoji Buddhist monks leading in drumming and chanting. Mary Hanson, one of the day's MCs, will invoke the indigenous peoples and spirit of this place and introduce our first speaker: Lilly Adams from Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility and the Coalition to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. Our other MC, Michael Ramos of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, will introduce Dan Gilman of Veterans for Peace, #92. Folksinger Tom Rawson will then lead us in song. Ground Zero Member In Residence Elizabeth Murray will speak, followed by Vandana Whitney of 350.org. All these speakers will help tie together our concerns for the



At the 2015 Earth Day commemoration, participants organized a "funeral for the Earth." *Photo by Leonard Eiger.*

abolition of nuclear weapons, climate threats to our Earth, environmental and social justice issues; how to redirect trillions of dollars from nukes to housing, education, healthcare, green jobs, transportation, and cleaning up our wastes while honoring native peoples and our Earth.

The Seattle Peace Chorus' Action Ensemble will lead us in song, then we will march on the sidewalk down Pike Street, led by the monks, and through the Pike Place Market with banners and signs, passing out information written by Leonard Eiger about our concerns. We will stop briefly at Victor Steinbruck Park to again honor the Salish Peoples and Sea with the Action Ensemble singing. The march will continue back to Westlake where we will have an open mic and more music until 1:30 pm, cleaning up by 2:00.

We need people to help with peacekeeping, information distribution, getting people to sign a petition

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course, Trident was designed for one purpose – to threaten the Soviet Union with total annihilation (and with a definite first-strike capability). Mixing low-yield and high-yield warheads on Trident (a new capability) makes absolutely no strategic sense and changes Trident's mission significantly. In a time of crisis, an adversary would not be able to distinguish the different incoming warheads, although they could detect a launch and know it was launched from a submarine. A nation under attack by warheads from any D5 missile, would have to assume the worst-case scenario – a full-scale attack – and that would likely trigger full-scale (nuclear) retaliation.

There is so much more to say about the 2018 NPR, but for now, I think it safe to say that it is deeply troubling on every level. It signals a return to a dangerous Cold War mentality and introduces new, destabilizing concepts, and diminishes constraints on the use of nuclear weapons. Trident figures prominently in this dangerous, new Nuclear Posture. Under the U.S./Russia New START treaty signed in 2010, roughly 70 percent of U.S. nuclear warheads either are or will be deployed on Trident.

Ultimately, the 2018 NPR pays lip service to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and denigrates

the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty. Ironically, Article VI of the NPT, which states that, "Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control," is not even on the radar.

As the U.S. accuses other nations – notably Russia, Iran and North Korea – of violating various treaty obligations, and takes a hardline, adversarial posture towards them, it would do well to look in the mirror. It is not a pleasant vision, yet it is one that we avoid at our own, and the world's, peril.

Rather than threatening Russia (and other nations) with an increasingly threatening nuclear posture, of which Trident is central, the U.S. should be working with Russia to cut back our respective arsenals and support the United Nations Nuclear Ban Treaty. The horrors of a nuclear war that will be inevitable should we pursue a new Cold War are unimaginable. And Trident will figure centrally in such a war – a war that must never happen, for humanity's sake.

Leonard Eiger chairs the Communications Committee for Ground Zero. His blog can be read at <http://nuclearabolitionist.blogspot.com>.

Ground Zero v. Navy—Final Report on the Lawsuit

By Glen Milner

On March 21, Karol and Glen Milner presented to attorney Kathy George a ceramic sunflower that Ground Zero commissioned for Kathy for her work on the NEPA lawsuit, *Ground Zero v. Navy*. The five-year legal case against the second Explosives Handling Wharf (EHW-2) ended on June 27, 2017 with a 9th Circuit split decision – for Ground Zero on First Amendment issues and for the Navy on the NEPA case. (NEPA stands for National Environmental Policy Act, which requires federal agencies to conduct environmental assessments for projects.)

On August 11, 2017, Ground Zero appealed for a 9th Circuit *en banc* review of NEPA issues in the case that was later rejected. After much discernment, Ground Zero decided in November 2017 against appealing the 9th Circuit decision to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Although the wharf was built, I would pursue this case again without hesitation. We held the Navy accountable—on this fact the 9th Circuit agreed—that the Navy mislead the public throughout the entire EIS (environmental impact statement) review on explosive risk. We also won arguments against the sealing of records by the District Court.

Ground Zero members never wavered in their support of this lengthy and expensive lawsuit. More than 300 individuals spoke against the second wharf in public hearings and in written comments for the Navy's EIS. I believe we cannot stand by as the Navy introduces new risks into the Puget Sound region. I am compelled to continue to speak out on what we learned from the lawsuit on explosive risks.

On June 27, 2017, a three-member panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a ruling affirming the district court's order granting summary judgment, and stated, "*The Navy violated NEPA's public disclosure requirement by not revealing that the Safety Board withheld approval of its plan for the construction of EHW-2. The Navy further violated NEPA by withholding the now-disclosed portions of the appendices to the EIS. Both disclosure errors were, however, harmless.*"

The opinion fits a pattern of decisions in which plaintiffs challenging an EIS must prove that a violation of NEPA due to nondisclosure could have resulted in a

different outcome for the EIS review. Plaintiffs are somehow expected to foresee and predict how the public and governmental agencies would have used withheld information that was legally required to be released.

The 9th Circuit opinion overlooked the fact that there were many options for explosives safety for EHW-2. Judges noted in oral arguments that even if the wharf remained in its present location, a fragmentation barrier could be built between the wharves, and simultaneous loading operations at the two wharves could be addressed and restricted.

The June 27, 2017 opinion also negated one of the primary purposes of the NEPA, to "... *provide full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and shall inform decisionmakers and the public of the reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.*"

The second main issue involved the Navy's private consultations with the district court judge; the Navy's obtaining the [court sealing](#) of previously released records; and the district court order preventing the use of sealed records and records available on the Internet and through other open sources by the Plaintiffs. On this issue, on June 27, 2017, the 9th Circuit ruled against the Navy and the district court's ruling and stated, "*Any restriction of Ground Zero's public speech at this point must be justified by specific facts showing that disclosure of particular documents would harm national security.*" On this issue, the Navy has so far declined to return to court to justify the sealing of records.

The lawsuit was filed in District Court on [June 19, 2012](#) by [Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action](#) and [Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility](#). Plaintiffs asserted that construction of the Navy's second Explosives Handling Wharf began without an adequate study of environmental impacts under the NEPA. The Navy began construction of the four-year project in September 2012. Plaintiffs appealed to the 9th Circuit to overturn a January 8, 2014 decision by Federal Judge Ronald B. Leighton to [dismiss](#) the case.



Attorney Kathy George worked tirelessly on behalf of Ground Zero's case against the Navy. *Photo by Karol Milner.*

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History of the Case

In May 2009, the Navy announced it was conducting an EIS for the second Explosives Handling Wharf. In March 2012, the Navy released its [Final EIS](#) and the [Record of Decision](#) was filed in May 2012.

The Navy's second Explosives Handling Wharf consists of 1,250 pilings and covers 6.3 acres of water in ecologically sensitive Hood Canal. The Navy, while withholding information regarding explosives safety, will double the amount of explosives in Hood Canal and likely double the amount of missile handling by the Navy. The net explosive weight of the two wharves is equal to [7.4 million pounds](#) of TNT in the form of rocket propellant in the missiles. The propellant is classified as an HC/D 1.1 explosive, more volatile than TNT, and is capable of detonating upon impact.

Throughout the EIS process, the Navy insisted that it was not increasing the risk of an accident involving missiles in Hood Canal. In the [Final EIS](#) the Navy stated, *"No new or increased quantity of explosives would be introduced as a result of the construction and operation of the EHW-2."* The Navy also stated, in both this docu-

ment and in numerous similar statements, *"The proposed project would not change the amounts or manner in which explosive materials are handled on NBK at Bangor."* However, after the case was filed, the Navy released over 115,000 pages in its administrative record which proved the plaintiffs' assertions and showed a new and substantial risk in Hood Canal.

Other records released after the case was filed showed that the Navy planned to spend up to \$32.2 million for "Impacted Facilities" to fortify or move existing facilities which could be damaged from an explosives accident at the new wharf. The expense amounts to about 4.5 percent of the entire project. But the Navy could not move or fortify the existing EHW. Mysteriously, the Navy completed a separate [Environmental Assessment](#) in 2011 which removed the fragmentation barrier between the wharves which was designed to prevent the propagation of an explosion at the adjacent wharf.

In September 2012, plaintiffs discovered that while the Navy was informing the public that there were no new risks from explosive material, a [debate](#) had been rag-

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Mother's Day Action with Musical Guests the Seattle Peace Chorus

By Tom Rogers

Please join us at Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, 16159 Clear Creek Rd NW, Poulsbo, WA on Saturday, May 12th to celebrate Mother's Day. We are a little light on details right now, but plans include a topical keynote presentation by a mystery guest and a vigil and nonviolent direct action later in the day at the Bangor base. The Seattle Peace Chorus Action Ensemble are our special musical guests.

May is a beautiful time to visit Ground Zero. We can promise lush green grass in the meadow and lots of flowers and trees in full spring majesty. We can't exactly promise sun, but we'll settle for sunny dispositions. In the spirit of less-is-more, our schedule will allow ample time for reflection, fellowship, connecting with old friends, making new ones, and enjoying the grounds and trails.

Note that this action is purposely scheduled for Saturday in order to not compete with family Mother's Day celebrations, not just for us, but for the military, security and law enforcement folks who seem to enjoy attending our direct actions.

We'll provide coffee, tea, bagels, and cream cheese in the morning. Bring a bag lunch and something to share for a mid-day break.

To get updated information about the day's schedule and events, please visit www.gzcenter.org.

Did you ever wonder where the apostrophe, if any, goes in Mothers Day or Mother's Day, or Mothers'

Day? If you have a few more minutes read on.

A short history of Mother's Day

At Ground Zero we most often attribute this day to Julia Ward Howe, who led a "Mother's Day for Peace" anti-war observance on June 2, 1872, which was accompanied by an "Appeal to womanhood throughout the world" (nowadays known as [Mother's Day Proclamation](#)). The observance continued in Boston for about 10 years under Howe's personal sponsorship, then died out.

In its present form, Mother's Day was established by Anna Jarvis following the death of her mother, a Civil War era social activist, in 1905. Jarvis never mentioned Howe, always claiming that the creation of Mother's Day was hers alone.

Anna Jarvis explicitly wanted an apostrophe, and she wanted it to be *before* the "s": ... it was to be a singular possessive, for each family to honor their mother, not a plural possessive commemorating all mothers in the world.

To a greater degree, at Ground Zero we often celebrate the day as a tribute to Mother Earth. On this day we act out our obligation to protect our mother from the ravages of nuclear weapons.

Tom Rogers is a former Navy submarine captain who serves on the Stewardship Council.

Twenty-Four Arrested at Nevada Nuclear Test Site

By Felice Cohen-Joppa

Members of the Pacific Life Community converged at the Las Vegas Catholic Worker house from March 2 - 4 for their annual gathering to protest nuclear weapons. Twenty-four of them were arrested on Sunday, March 4 during a nonviolent action at the Nevada nuclear test site.

They kicked off the weekend with an hour-long vigil on Friday afternoon, holding signs and banners in front of the nearby offices of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). [The NNSA manages eight nuclear weapons-related sites: the Y-12 nuclear complex, Pantex Plant, Nevada National Security Site (formerly known as the Nevada Test Site), Los Alamos National Lab, Livermore National Lab, Sandia National Lab, Savannah River Site and Kansas City Plant.]

After the vigil, Friday and Saturday's schedule was filled with regional updates, activist story-telling, nonviolence exploration, action planning, an open mic and a Service of Remembrance for Fr. Jerry Zawada, OFM. There were excellent presentations from Sr. Ardeth Platte and Sr. Carol Gilbert on the nuclear weapons ban treaty, and from Leona Morgan, Peter Clark, Eileen Shaughnessy, Denise Brown and Susan Schuurman of the Nuclear Issues Study Group, who came from New Mexico to talk about "Dismantling the Nuclear Beast."

On Sunday morning, the group drove about 60 miles northwest of Las Vegas. They gathered for a liturgy in the desert outside of the boundary fence of the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Afterwards, they carried signs and banners the short distance to the road leading into the test site, where they joined hands in a circle to learn the [Elm Dance](#), a dance that is performed "to celebrate commitment to life and solidarity with activists the world over."

The activists then proceeded to the boundary line, where Sr. Ardeth Platte told the test site/NNSA employees and Nye County sheriffs on the other side of the line that the group was there to let them know about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons that was signed by 122 countries at the U.N. on July 7, 2017. The treaty, which will come into force 90 days after it's ratified by 50 countries, prohibits the development, testing, production, manufacture, possession, stockpiling, sharing, use and threat to use nuclear weapons. At

Sr. Ardeth's invitation, one of the NNSA employees accepted a copy of the treaty. With copies of the treaty in hand, two dozen people then crossed onto NNSS property. They were escorted to the nearby pen, where they were briefly held before being processed and released.

Those arrested were: Sue Albao, Vera Anderson, Rozella Apel, Ann Boden, Felice Cohen-Joppa, Susan Crane, Clancy Dunigan, Ed Ehmke, Sr. Carol Gilbert, Jim Haber, Tensie Hernandez, Theo Kayser, Fr. Steve Kelly, Mark Kelso, Sr. Lil Mattingly, Elizabeth Murray, William O'Connell, Marcus Page-Collonge, Mary Jane Parrine, Sr. Ardeth Platte, Larry Purcell, George Rodkey, Susan Schuurman, and Micah Wullschlegler.

One hundred atmospheric nuclear tests took place at the 1,300+ square mile site between 1951 and 1962, followed by more than 800 underground nuclear tests through 1992,

when the U.S. put a hold on full scale nuclear weapons testing. Since then, [sub-critical tests](#) have been conducted there in underground tunnels. More than 15,000 activists have been arrested at the Nevada test site over the past six decades in protest of nuclear weapons testing.

The nuclear test site occupies Western Shoshone land, in violation of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley. The Western Shoshone National Council has declared their nation a Nuclear Free Zone.

The Pacific Life Community weekend ended in Las Vegas with a concert by Eileen and the In-Betweens (and a couple of songs by guest artist Vera Anderson, who had been arrested earlier that day), followed by dinner at the Las Vegas Catholic Worker. The Pacific Life Community will next meet in the San Francisco/Bay area on March 15 - 18, 2019.

The Pacific Life Community is a network of spiritually motivated activists from U.S. Pacific coast and other western states who engage in anti-nuclear direct action. They protest at different nuclear weapons-related sites each year on or around March 1, which is Nuclear-Free and Independent Pacific Day and the anniversary of the Bravo nuclear bomb detonation by the U.S. at the Bikini Atoll in 1954.



Fr. Steve Kelly, SJ, presides over the liturgy before the nonviolent action. *Photo by Jack Cohen-Joppa.*

Felice Cohen-Joppa edits *The Nuclear Resister*, where this article was originally published on March 10.

ing within the Department of Defense. The agency in charge of explosives safety, the [Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board](#), had refused to grant approval for the project. The Navy instead sought its own Secretarial Certification, one of only seven such exemptions in the U.S., and agreed to accept all responsibility for any accident and the consequences of any accident for the entire life of the wharf.

The January 8, 2014 District Court ruling did not address all of plaintiffs' concerns about the misleading EIS process. For example, the ruling was silent on whether the Navy violated a requirement to include comments of the Explosive Safety Board in the EIS which would have alerted the public to the danger of siting two missile-handling wharves close together.

Briefing for the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals was completed on October 6, 2014 and oral arguments were heard on May 6, 2016. The case is listed as 9th Circuit Case No. 14-35086 and District Court Case No. 3:12-cv-05537-RBL.

Attorney Kathy George had been involved in *Ground Zero v Navy* since 2011. Kathy previously conducted District Court briefing for the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit, [Milner v Navy](#), which led to the U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning the High 2 FOIA exemption, which until 2011 had been increasingly used by the Navy and other federal agencies to withhold information from the public.

Attorney Jim Lobsenz became involved in *Ground Zero v Navy* in 2012, after the Navy secretly approached the District Court and obtained a gag order against plaintiffs, preventing the use of records crucial to the case. Lobsenz was the attorney in the landmark cases, [Witt v Department of the Air Force](#) and [U.S. v Watada](#).

On March 21, Karol and Glen Milner also presented a thank you card to Kathy George that was signed by Ground Zero members at the November annual meeting and a dinner certificate. We cannot thank Kathy enough for her thoughtful and determined work.

Glen Milner leads legal efforts on behalf of Ground Zero. He and Karol live in Lake Forest Park.

Lilly is creating, set-up and clean-up, and getting the word out! The tide may be changing with more people aware of the dangers of nuclear weapons, so this rally and march are important, and we need your help.

Once again, thanks to the Stewardship Council and our supporters for funding, Bob Barnes for the sound system, all the speakers, musicians and singers, Nipponzan Myohoji monks, writers, peacekeepers, information distributors, both MC's, and especially Mona Lee and Beth Brunton for their enormous efforts to get this organized!

See you April 21 for the Earth Day rally and march organized by Ground Zero and our allies—Earth Care Not Warfare, the Coalition To Abolish Nuclear Weapons, environmental groups, Veterans for Peace, and others).

Michael "Firefly" Siptroth serves on the Stewardship Council. He lives in Belfair where he tends to the Earth on his small organic farm.

Real Bomb Threats vs. Fake Ones

By Leonard Eiger

The headline in the February 22nd Seattle Times read, "[Navy base at Bangor resumes normal operations after bomb threat.](#)" It could have just as easily read, "Navy base at Bangor presents continuing bomb threat." Okay, not really a "bomb" threat; more like a missile threat. The Times article was about a mentally-ill person who drove up to one of the entrance gates to Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor and proclaimed that he had explosives strapped to himself, and more in his vehicle. According to subsequent reporting, no explosives were found in the vehicle or on its occupant.

Speaking of a real threat, the nuclear warheads currently deployed on OHIO Class "Trident" submarines that sail from the Bangor base represent approximately 38 percent of all U.S. deployed nuclear warheads. A large number of organizations have come together to ask the U.S. to make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of national security policy. In a joint resolution - [Back from the Brink: A Call to Prevent Nuclear War](#) - the groups call on the United States to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- Ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- Taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- Canceling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action has endorsed the resolution and, we invite you, either as an individual or as an organization of any kind, to endorse the call. Help us build a groundswell for abolition. Learn more at preventnuclearwar.org. Future generations depend on us!

Leonard Eiger serves on the Ground Zero Stewardship Council and leads media and outreach activities on behalf of the group.

Three-Day Fast at Westlake Park Calls for Nonviolent Solutions with North Korea

By Leonard Eiger

As the 2018 Winter Olympics were beginning in South Korea, Nipponzan Myohoji Buddhist monks, along with fellow peace activists, began three days of fasting and praying for peace at Seattle's Westlake Park.

Their intention was to heighten people's awareness of the increasing threat of nuclear war arising from the aggressive confrontation and rhetoric between President Donald Trump and North Korean Leader Kim Jong-un. Any military action against North Korea will likely result in the use of nuclear weapons and horrific consequences. Diplomacy and

nonviolent conflict resolution create the only acceptable path away from war.



Witnessing for peace with North Korea. Senji Kanaeda (l), Gilberto Perez (center), and others during their fast. *Photo courtesy of Senji Kanaeda.*

The Olympics are over, and the work of peace-building continues. The monks invite all people to support the many grassroots actions, including the Olympic Truce and People's Peace Pledge. Find these and many more actions at the "Take Action" page at www.gzcenter.org.

Namu Myōhō Renge Kyō

Leonard Eiger chairs the Media and Outreach Committee for Ground Zero, and organizes the No to New Trident Campaign, at www.no2nt.org.

GROUND ZERO

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