

PAID PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

An Appeal to Navy Personnel



USS Jackson 2015

Brothers and Sisters in the Navy: "Refuse to engage in nuclear annihilation!"

Peace activists in the Puget Sound region have worked to stop the threat of nuclear weapons since the 1970s. We have learned that we share a common concern with members of the armed forces—that the use of nuclear weapons would lead to unimaginable destruction to innocent populations and to our planet.

While the danger of nuclear war is as great as ever, little is being done to curb this threat. One person in our country, our President acting as Commander in Chief, may alone order the launch of nuclear weapons. No single person should have the power to end life on the planet.

We, the undersigned, are convinced that nuclear weapons are the greatest evil on Earth. We believe that humankind created these weapons, and that only humankind can prevent their use.

We bring our plea to you, sisters and brothers, in the armed forces:

- ✓ Resist illegal orders.
- ✓ Refuse to kill innocent civilians.
- ✓ Refuse the order to use nuclear weapons.

We know your resistance will be difficult and require great courage. But please reflect on what it means to violate your conscience and to destroy all hope for future generations.

International decisions have ruled that the use of nuclear weapons is illegal, including decisions at the International Court of Justice in 1996; the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the 1949 Geneva Convention; and the 1977 Geneva Convention protocol. The UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons entered into legal force on January 22, 2021.

The Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) makes it clear that military personnel have an obligation and a duty to only obey lawful orders and indeed have an obligation to disobey unlawful orders, including orders by the president that do not comply with the UCMJ. The moral and legal obligation is to the U.S. Constitution and not to those who might issue unlawful orders, especially if those orders are in direct violation of the Constitution and the UCMJ.

Knowing that submarines from Bangor are ready to immediately launch as many as 270 nuclear warheads, an order to launch nuclear weapons would signify the final failure of nuclear deterrence and bring about unprecedented destruction. Do not obey an illegal order. Instead, choose to protect all of creation.

Sue Ablao, *Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Robert C. Aldridge, *Santa Clara, CA, World War II combat veteran*

David P. Barash, *Professor of Psychology Emeritus University of Washington*

Marilyn Liden Bode, *Kingston, WA*

Rodney Brunelle, *Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Dick Burkhardt

Dr. Helen Caldicott, *Founding President Physicians for Social Responsibility – 1985 Nobel Peace Prize*

Felice Cohen-Joppa, *Co-coordinator, The Nuclear Resister*

Jack Cohen-Joppa, *Co-coordinator, The Nuclear Resister*

Betsy Collins, *Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Susan Crane, *Redwood City, CA, Redwood City Catholic Worker*

Rev. John Dear

Jim Douglass, *Mary's House Catholic Worker, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action co-founder*

Shelley Douglass, *Mary's House Catholic Worker, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action co-founder*

Deacon Denny Duffell, *Coordinator for Pax Christi Pacific Northwest*

Joanne Dufour

Leonard Eiger, *Friday Harbor, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Carolee Flaten, *Hansville, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Bruce K. Gagnon, *Brunswick, ME, Global*

Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space

Sr. Carol Gilbert, *O.P.*

Dan Gilman, *Veterans for Peace*

Mary Gleysteen, *Kingston, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Sr. Iva Gregory, *O.P., Pax Christi*

Mary Hanson, *Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Lorraine Hartmann, *Pax Christi*

David Hartsough, *San Francisco, CA, Executive Director, Peaceworkers*

Barbara Hill, *Elbe, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Michael Hill, *Elbe, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Helen Jaccard, *Veterans for Peace Golden Rule Project*

Mack Johnson, *Silverdale, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Kathy Kelly, *Co-coordinator, Voices for Creative Nonviolence*

Larry Kerschner

Mona Lee, *Seattle, WA, Earthcare Not Warfare*

Steve Leigh

Judith Eve Lipton

Ray McGovern

Bernie Meyer, *Olympia, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Glen Milner, *Seattle, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Elizabeth Murray, *Poulsbo, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Carl Nakajima

Weldon Nisly, *Seattle, WA, retired*

Mennonite pastor

Rev. Gilberto Zamora Perez, *Bainbridge Island, WA*

Larry Purcell, *Redwood City, CA, Redwood City Catholic Worker*

William Quigley, *Professor of Law, Loyola University New Orleans*

John M. Repp, *Seattle, WA, West Seattle Neighbors for Peace and Justice*

Mason Rhoads, *Veterans for Peace*

Sr. Megan Rice, *SHCJ, Transform Now Plowshares*

Elizabeth Roberts, *Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Tom Rogers, *CAPT, USN (Retired), Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Randy Rowland

Coleen Rowley, *retired FBI Agent and former Minneapolis Division Legal Counsel*

Sallie Shawl

Michael "Firefly" Siptroth, *Belfair, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

David Swanson, *Charlottesville, VA, RootsAction.org*

Ellen Thomas, *Proposition One Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Future*

Lou Truskoff

Kathleen Wahl, *Seattle, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Brian E. Watson, *Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

Caroline K. Wildflower, *Port Townsend, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action co-founder*

Alice Zillah, *Olympia, WA, Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action*

If you choose to oppose nuclear war please know that our hearts and homes are open to you. We will do what we can to support your decision.

PLEASE CONTACT
Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action
at www.gzcenter.org,
360-930-8697, or info@gzcenter.org
FOR MORE INFORMATION