



Newsletter

Women for Peace

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom

July/Aug 2002



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How Close Do You Live To A Nuclear Waste Route? Find Out at www.Mapscience.org

Info: Bill Walker, Environmental Working Group: 510-444-0973 bwalker@ewg.org

With Safety Concerns Mounting and Senate Vote Looming, DOE Has Given Public Little Information

One in seven Americans live within one mile of the proposed routes for shipping highly radioactive nuclear waste to Nevada, but the government has not made details of the routes accessible to the public in any meaningful way. Now, citizens can see just how close nuclear waste shipments will come to their homes or their children's schools with the Nuclear Waste Transport Atlas at www.mapscience.org.

The US Department of Energy is pushing a plan to ship at least 70,000 tons of high-level radioactive waste by truck or train through 45 states over 24 to 38 years to a disposal site 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas. The Senate will vote on the plan as early as June 25, but crude multi-state maps in an appendix to a 5,000-page technical report have been the only information about the transport routes available to the public.

Environmental Working Group's new website allows anyone to type in an address and get a customized map clearly marking areas within 1 mile, 2 miles and 5 miles of a nuclear waste route. The maps also show the locations of schools and hospitals near the routes.

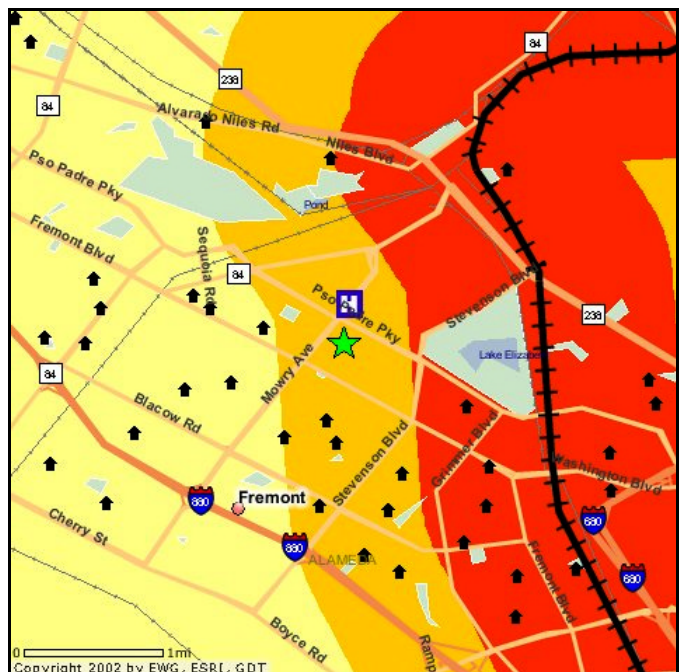
DOE's own data show that if the nuclear waste is transported by truck, there will be more than 100,000 shipments over the life of the project. If rail is the principal mode, there will be approximately 18,000 train shipments plus about 2,850 shipments by barge. According to the Department of Transportation, from 1994 to 2000 there were more than 28,000 fatal

tractor-trailer accidents in the United States (almost 7,000 on interstate highways), and from 1990 to 2001 more than 88,000 train accidents.

Current models of the casks that would be used to transport the waste are protected by less than five inches of armor, but weapons readily available on the international black market can pierce 12 to 30 inches of armor. A container pierced by a missile or explosives would become a dirty bomb meant to terrorize a large population with long-term fear of radiation. The casks the government plans to use in shipping the waste have never been tested against available weapons.

Independent analysis of the health and economic impacts of an attack with common military demolition devices show that the radiation released could mean 300 to 1,800 latent cancer deaths and \$10 billion or more in cleanup and recovery costs. After Sept. 11, said Jim Hall, former chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board in the Clinton Administration, "One of the things that immediately got my attention is the potential of each one of these (nuclear transport) casks to be a dirty bomb."

Proponents of the plan claim that use of the repository will collect the nation's nuclear waste in one site, but DOE figures and US Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham say otherwise. The day the repository in Nevada opens, all of its space will be spoken for, while nuclear plants continue to generate waste.



DISTANCE TO A PROPOSED NUCLEAR WASTE ROUTE

- within 1 mile
- within 2 miles
- within 5 miles
- Hospitals
- Proposed Route
- Highway
- Rail
- Schools

5,000 Children Die Every Month from Sanctions on Iraq

by Carolyn Scarr, epicalc@earthlink.net

Every Tuesday at noon a vigil is held in front of Oakland's Federal Building to remind the community that US insistence on continuing sanctions against the people of Iraq continues to take a deadly toll. There is a great deal of misinformation regarding what will happen in the switch to so-called Smart Sanctions. Many well-meaning people believe that making such a change will end the misery that children, the elderly, and the families of Iraq have to deal with. Carolyn Scarr, of Ecumenical Peace Institute, who spearheads the weekly vigil at the Federal Building, has developed information regarding details of Smart Sanctions.

Sanctions and Their Price

As the more hawkish elements of the Bush administration call for covert actions, invasions and bombings against Iraq, the restrained faction works for the continuation of sanctions, modified to reduce opposition at home and abroad.

In 1990 sanctions were imposed on Iraq, intended as a nonviolent alternative to war to force Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait. The harshest ever imposed under the UN, they fell disproportionately on ordinary citizens, especially the poor. All imports were forbidden, including medicines, food, and other items needed to ensure the basic subsistence of the civilian population. No exports were permitted.

After the Gulf War, the stated purpose of the continuing sanctions was to force Iraq to disarm except for a limited range of defensive weapons. The UN has said that the sanctions will not be lifted until the UNSCOM team verifies that Iraq is not harboring arms of mass destruction, but no standards were spelled out under which the UNSCOM team would make that verification. It was soon clear from public statements of President Bush (Sr.) and members of his administration that a regime change was the U.S. goal, even though such a purpose violates the UN Charter. Similar statements were made during the Clinton administration and that of Bush Jr. This intent became even more obvious after Bush Jr. declared Iraq to be one of the Axes of Evil.

In 1996 the Oil for Food Program was begun. Under the Oil for Food Program Iraq's oil is exported under international supervision. It is sold and the proceeds are banked in New York, less 25% to pay for the United Nations' administrative costs and to pay claimants who file for damages resulting from the Gulf War. Oil for Food funds are administered directly by the UN in the north. The UN may purchase locally grown food, contract local labor, etc with Oil for Food funds. In the south the Iraqi government may make contracts to import goods from abroad and request the UN 661 committee to approve the contract and pay the costs from Oil for Food funds. The list of disapproved contracts beggars the imagination: blood bags for transfusions, infant sized rubber tubing, pencils, athletic equipment, pipes, pumps. Chlorine for purifying water is never approved. The Iraqi government is not allowed to use Oil for Food funds to buy local products nor to contract for local labor. Foreign contractors only may bid on projects under Oil for Food. It is re-

ported that Halliburton has rebuilt much of Iraq's damaged oil production sector under Oil for Food.

Smart Sanctions

On May 14, 2002 the 15-member Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1409 which purportedly permits the import of everything Iraq needs and keeps out only weaponry. Continuing under UNSCR 1409 are the following conditions:

- ¥ Prohibitions against foreign investments, which are necessary to rebuild the shattered infrastructure in a number of key sectors, including oil, energy, agriculture, public health, and sanitation.
- ¥ No spending of oil revenues inside Iraq, except for the northern region, including salaries of civil servants, teachers and medical staff or purchase of local agricultural produce and manufactured goods.
- ¥ Central purchasing and distribution of goods by the Iraqi government remains, with the population receiving primary commodities through the ration system. This leaves the population entirely dependant on the central government and in a highly vulnerable position if the distribution of the ration is interrupted through war or other national emergencies.
- ¥ Iraq is not allowed to export any goods other than oil, which keeps Iraq from diversifying its economy and prevents it from producing consumer items at home.
- ¥ The potential of a veto by any one country on the Iraq Program Committee continues, preventing import of dual use items necessary for the health and wellbeing of the civilian population. The veto threat also means that countries on the Program Committee can hold contracts hostage in exchange for political cooperation from the exporting country. The U.S. released over \$200 million of Russian contracts with Iraq in late March, which is widely believed to have induced Russia to support the Smart Sanctions resolution.

Under 1409, every import contract still goes through several committees, where it can be held up by one veto. The Dual use designation will still prevent import of things necessary for civilian life. This is particularly deadly in the water treatment sector. Chlorine, an absolute necessity for purifying water, has never been legally imported under sanctions. It is unlikely that this will change under 1409.

What Smart Sanctions Really Could Be

Scholars of international law have developed criteria by which a sanctions program can be judged actually to be smart. A primary requirement is that sanctions may be imposed only for a valid reason. Article 39 of the Charter of the United Nations allows the Security Council to take measures such as sanctions only to maintain or restore international peace and security following its determination that there exists a threat to or breach of the peace, or an act of aggression. This threat must be proved rather than be based on foreign policy considerations of a member state.

(continued on page 5)

Workshop on Racism

by Dolores Taller dtaller@igc.org

On March 23, a dozen WILPF branch members participated in a workshop to address racism and encourage diversity. Elena Featherston, a cross-cultural trainer for multicultural alliance building, personal political transformation and institutional political development, facilitated.

Among other subjects, we discussed modern racism which suggests that the character of racial prejudice in the US has changed in recent years, so that non-race related reasons are used to deny people of color access to opportunity. Code names for this practice of racism include people on welfare and underclass.

Featherston differentiates the diversity model from multicultural. Multicultural suggests an ongoing change in the culture of the organization which creates a place for difference and dissent. She noted our mostly white participants and suggested we figure out how to implement a multicultural model to create a culture where people of color are willing and eager to be involved.

She described the various levels of oppression, personal, interpersonal, institutional and cultural. We did an exercise in which we noticed what it is like to be a member of a target group (people of color, women, working class) and then what it is like to be a member of a non-target group, (white, men, upper class).

We discussed the dysfunctional behaviors which must be countered to create a cooperative, multicultural environment. Whites practice behaviors such as dysfunctional rescue, victim blaming, avoiding encounters with people of color, denial of differences, denial of white privilege.

For people of color, behaviors might include system manipulation and blaming the system; antagonistic avoidance of contact with whites or other people of

color; lack of understanding of the impact of the cultural situation.

This workshop represented a new approach to our process of considering how WILPF branch behavior must change in order to overcome any racist (aware or unaware) behavior which keeps us from becoming truly multi-cultural.

A suggested reading: White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack by Peggy Macintosh (Peace & Freedom july/Aug 1989)

do YOU have your T-Shirt yet?!



Legend: THE SKIES
ARE FOR STARS
NOT WARS

ONLY \$15 !

We have many of these beautiful WFP T-shirts available in the office. Come and try one on. Get some for your friends and family. And wear yours around town to spark a conversation on peace and the militarization of space.

We have the shirts in

Black and Navy

Small, Med, Large, and XLge

(most of us would want a Large)

Long-sleeved and Short-sleeved

Come in and get YOURS!

Peace Message by Palestinian and Israeli Speakers Inspires WILPF Cluster Meeting

by Phyllis Brown

Women from WILPF branches throughout northern California heard two featured speakers, both Americans, each currently living part-time in Israel and Palestine - share their dual experiences, living hands on between these two worlds. These remarkable women spoke in Berkeley in May at the bi-annual Cluster Meeting, offering their observations and historical insights in a refreshing, non-confrontational exchange. They agreed on the urgent need for a non-violent resolution to end the mutual pain and loss.

Our Berkeley-East Bay Branch of WILPF hosted this, the first 2002 Cluster Meeting, at Redwood Gardens. The meetings provide a rich opportunity for reconnection, exchange, renewal and recommitment, as we face the current political hard times.

Introductions and reports on branch actions preceded the two speakers. After the speakers we had a delicious Vietnamese buffet (and time for social dialogue, support and laughter. The program continued with a

fact-filled report from Tara Dorabji (representing Tri-Valley Cares) on the state of nuclear weapons, what we can do, and various actions that are planned.

We also celebrated two members present being approved as US WILPF Co-Presidents for 2002-2005. Congratulations to Sandy Silver of Santa Cruz and Darien De Lu of the Berkeley-East Bay branch!

The day provided a full agenda: diversity, wisdom, experience, creativity, humor and strength. In closing, we shared a commitment to work with WILPF and live with joy, compassion and a dedication to peace.

We WON One!!!

Thanks to efforts of Tri-Valley CAREs, WFP, WILPF, and others, the Defense Department has backed down on shipping nuclear waste to Livermore in unsafe containers (of course I can't imagine a container that would be considered safe, can you?) Check it out at Tri-Valley CAREs web page: www.trivalleycares.org

(Iraq Sanctions continued from page 2)

Other considerations include the requirement that sanctions may not target civilians who are uninvolved with the threat to peace or international security, and may not result in an abrogation of Geneva Convention rights. Sanctions may not target goods needed to ensure the basic subsistence of the civilian population, nor may they target essential medical provisions or educational materials of any kind.

Legal sanctions may become illegal when they have been applied for too long without meaningful results. A six month sunset clause, after which a new Security Council Resolution would be required to continue sanctions, would reduce the impact of a super-power veto.

The Sanctions Must Be Ended

Since August 6, 1990, a complete siege has continued on a country whose civilian infrastructure was seriously damaged in the 1991 bombings. Water, electricity and sewage treatment systems were hardest hit by the war and sanctions combination. The 5,000 children who die each month succumb primarily to water borne diseases, chief among them diarrhea.

In a report to the UN Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/33), Professor Marc Bossuyt measures the sanctions against Iraq against the above requirements and comes to the conclusion that The sanctions regime against Iraq is unequivocally illegal under existing international humanitarian law and human rights law.

Nearly one and a half million Iraqi people have died as the result of the sanctions, according to UNICEF estimates. It is time for the sanctions to be ended.

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER

Articles are welcome. Please submit articles, adding your name, telephone number, and the date, to:

Martha Luehrmann
1466 Grizzly Peak Blvd.
Berkeley, CA 94708
Tel 510-548-7239 Fax 510-845-0322
MarthaL@california.com

In order of preference, send articles by:

- ¥ email to MarthaL@california.com
- ¥ regular snail mail to address above
- ¥ Newsletter folder in the WFP/WILPF office
- ¥ fax to 510-845-0322

In particular we are looking for:

- ¥ general article on the War on Terrorism
- ¥ general article on the Israeli-Palestinian mess
- ¥ religious roots of conflicts around the world
- ¥ the scrapped ABM treaty and this weird Russian-US standdown that appears to be taking its place
- ¥ the erosion of civil liberties and how to balance our civil liberties with legitimate needs of protection against terrorism

If you are including photos or cartoons, please mail, since faxes are usually too poor to print.

Articles should be approximately 300 words in length.

NEXT DEADLINE: Aug. 15, 2002

The President: (202) 456-1414 www.whitehouse.gov

President Bush, The White House, Washington, DC 20500

White House Comments:

Register your opinion on an issue: (202) 456-1111 or fax: (202) 456-2461

Whether a bill is signed or vetoed: (202) 456-2226

The Vice President: (202) 456-7549

www.whitehouse.gov/vicepresident

Cabinet:

www.whitehouse.gov/government/cabinet.html

Secretary of Defense: (703) 683-7100

www.defenselink.mil

Secretary of State: (202) 647-5291

www.state.gov

Dept. of State, 2201 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20520

Congress: (202) 224-3121

www.senate.gov www.house.gov

US Senate, Washington, DC 20510

Sen. Barbara Boxer (415) 403-0100

<http://boxer.senate.gov/home>

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (202) 224-3841, (415) 393-0707

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

US House of Representative, Washington, DC 20515

ONGOING CALENDAR

SUNDAYS	3 pm Lake Merritt Peace Walk. Meet at columns bet. Grand & Lakeshore, Oakland. 510-763-8712.
SUNDAYS	3pm Diablo Valley weekly Peace Walks. Meet Walnut Creek BART station. Info: Ken 925-827-3373.
MONDAYS	7pm East Bay Coalition Against War meets, 390 27 St. (bet. Bway & Telegraph), Oakland. 496-3470.
TUESDAYS	noon-1pm Vigil protesting Iraqi sanctions/bombings, Oakland Fedl. Bldg. (12 th St. BART) Epicalc@earthlink.net.
WEDNESDAYS	7:30am-8:30am Protest the war, S.E. corner Van Ness & Market Sts, SF. www.agapefn.org .
WEDNESDAYS	7:30pm Peace walk & Vigil. Meet No. Berk. BART station (bet. Virginia & Delaware), Berkeley. 528-9217 Vigil4peace@yahoo.com
WEDNESDAYS	7:00pm every other Wed. Amnesty Intl. letterwriting in Berkeley UU Fellowship, Cedar & Bonita. Call Govind at 510-529-8168.
THURSDAYS	7:30am-8:30am Oakland Peace Vigil, 14 & Bway, Oakland. Contact Keith at: darrionxxx@aol.com . Bring signs, etc.
THURSDAYS	12-1pm. Protest Afghanistan war. Federal Bldg., Golden Gate Av & Larkin, SF. AFSC.415/565-0201
FRIDAYS	12-1pm. Women in Black. Vigil re Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Bancroft & Telegraph, Berkeley. Info: 548-6310

WFP Planning Meetings

Mondays at 10:00 am
Redwood Gardens, Berkeley
July 1, July 15, Aug 5, Aug 19

CALENDAR**WILPF Planning Meetings**

Saturdays at 10:00 am
Grey Panthers, 1403 Addison St., Berkeley
July 13, Aug 10, Sept 14

July 5, Fri	4pm-2am Peace Celebration, Women s Resistance, Photo Exhibit MECA 8 th and Brannan in SF.
July 6 Sat	10:30am-1:30pm, East Bay Coalition to Stop the Sanctions on Iraq Benefit Potluck Brunch Picnic to bring medicines to pediatric hospitals in Iraq 1924 Cedar at Bonita, Berkeley. Info: 510-527-1222.
July 9 Tues	6:30 pm Pastors for Peace 13 th Caravan to Cuba Send-Off Dinner & Program. Benefit for much-needed medical supplies. \$6-10. Berkeley Fellowship, 1924 Cedar. Call 650-367-9183.
July 10 Wed	Noon to 3pm, Coffee & Conversation Get-Togethers with Sick Nuclear Workers at Tri-Valley Cares Ofc. 2582 Old First St. Livermore 925-443-7148.
July 11 Thurs	The Coming Of A Police State? with embattled NY attorney Lynne Stewart (falsely charged under Patriot Act) & others. Hosted by Barbara Lubin. Benefit Middle East Children s Alliance, Flashpoints & Progressive Forum. First Congregational Church, Channing and Dana. Call 415-821-0459 or 510-548-0542.
July 12 Fri	12 Noon, Network Against Disinformation protest at SF Chronicle, 901 Mission at 5 th in SF (Powell St. Bart) Info: 510-528-5403.
July 12 Fri	7:30 pm Cody s Presents an Evening with Ralph Nader at The First Cong. Church, Berkeley 2345 Channing. Benefit for Center for Study of Responsive Law, \$10
July 12 Fri	8pm-12:30am If I Can t Dance to it, It s NOT My Revolution Dance Party in Honor of Emma Goldman s upcoming BD. Sponsored by the PNVRC (People s Nonviolent Response Coalition) and the EB Coalition Against War. Call Indigo at 510-763-5045.
July 13 Sat	Noon-3pm Mt. Diablo Peace Center Potluck and Town Hall Meeting , 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek 925-933-7850. Peace Center also sponsoring a Peace Camp for 7-12 year olds July 22-26.
July 15 Mon	10am-4pm, Women for Peace working strategic planning retreat on goals and proposed actions, 555 10 th St., Oakland. Info: Lorene Lamb 510-
July 20 Sat	1pm, Elders for Survival luncheon for Nicaragua , Redwood Gardens, 2951 Derby St., Berkeley, \$20. Info: 510-654-8635
July 25-28 Thur-Sun	Strategies For Peace, Equality And Justice In An Age Of Globalization/ Symposium on Race and Racism, Thurs. July 25 with Herbert Aptheker, Leslie Cagan, Angela Davis, Elaine Hagopian, Manning Marable, Betita Martinez and many other activists. Sponsored by Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism, at SF State Univ.- Seven Hills Conference Center, South State Drive off Lake Merced Blvd. Info 415-863-6637 or www.cofc.org.
Aug. 3 Sat	11am. Stop The Bomb Where It Starts massive rally and march to Livermore Lab in remembrance of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. Gather at Carnegie Park at fourth and J . Info: Tri-Valley CAREs 925-443-7148 and 510-663-8065.
Aug 6 Tues	8AM Vigil at Livermore Lab West Gate.
Aug 15 Thurs	DEADLINE FOR SEPT/OCT NEWSLETTER ARTICLES. Info: Martha Luehrmann 510-548-7239.

Women for Peace & WILPF
2302 Ellsworth Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 849-3020

Remember the Aug 3 Hiroshima Rally in Livermore!

An eye for eye only ends up making the whole world blind.
- Mohandas K. Gandhi

Give Peace A Chance

Alice Hamburg Peace Leadership Camp FUNDS NEEDED NOW!

by Laura Santina, Lindey89@aol.com

Women For Peace and WILPF are partnering with other Peace & Justice groups to create the Alice Hamburg Peace Leadership Camp for Oakland High School Girls. Our goal is not only to give these girls the training and support to handle the violence around them, but the skills and structure to train their peers.

The camp will take place at Mills College from August 5 through August 16. Twenty-five wonderful girls from Oakland Technical High School and Castlemont High School have already signed up to participate. We are now reviewing applications from Conflict Resolution Trainers and Instructors and working on curriculum development. We have raised some funding from a foundation and from private donors but we don't yet have enough to cover the costs involved. If you can offer support for this important project please send a check made out to the Alice Hamburg Peace Leadership Camp. Send your check to Women For Peace or WILPF, 2302 Ellsworth Street, Berkeley, Ca 94704.

Hiroshima and Nagasaki: NEVER AGAIN!!!

On August 6, 1945 the US dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima in Japan. The US is the only country to use a nuclear weapon in battle. We dropped two bombs on civilian populations.

On August 3, 2002 at 11am join the Livermore Conversion Project in Livermore, to remember the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the US and say never again to nuclear war. Join us at 11am for a rally in Carnegie Park (3rd and J St. in downtown Livermore). Multiple speakers, art displays and music will expose the true reality of nuclear war and demonstrate that a peaceful alternative is possible.

At 2pm, we will march from Carnegie Park to the Lab. Those who choose, can use their bodies to bear witness and risk arrest to end the development of nuclear weapons.

Livermore Lab is an historic site of resistance. Twenty years ago, on June 21, 1982, thousands of nonviolent protesters converged on Livermore Lab to demonstrate opposition to the nuclear arms race. More than 1,300 people were arrested.

The large rallies in the 80s reflected public concern and forced the media to focus on the Lab and its secret lethal work-- designing and developing nuclear weapons. Today this work continues with more money and more secrecy.

Lawrence Livermore National Lab continues to create more useable nuclear weapons. The recently leaked, Nuclear Posture Review, reveals US contingency plans to use nuclear weapons against seven nations: Russia, China, North Korea, Libya, Syria, Iraq and Iran.

The open-ended War on Terrorism gave the Bush Administration a blank check for military spending. How far will this administration go to enforce the US global empire? We must stop the bomb where it starts. Now, more than ever, we need to unite against nuclear war to prevent the unthinkable from happening again.

For more information see the calendar, call Tri-Valley CAREs at 925-443-7248, or call 510-663-8065.

Make a Mental Note — Fall Memory Enhancement Workshop

By Darien De Lu, conjoin@california.com

As a public service to WFP and WILPF supporters and as a modest fundraiser the WILPF branch will offer a memory enhancement workshop in September or early October. Marlene Krohn, who presents such workshops professionally for Alameda County, will custom design the 1 1/2 hour workshop for the particular needs of activists. Cost is likely to be about \$10-20.

Watch for further details in the next newsletter and be sure to join us - if you remember....

