Between the Lines

Nuremberg Actions, PO Box 13 Boulder Creek CA 95006

August 1995 #49

SEPT. 1 MARKS 8TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAVY ASSAULT ON VIGILERS

On Friday, September 1st, we invite you to gather at the tracks at the Concord Naval Weapons Station to celebrate the spirit of resistance to US war crimes and commemorate the victims. We will also celebrate the survival of Brian Willson, Duncan Murphy and David Duncombe, after a loaded Navy munitions train deliberately drove through vigilers blockading the tracks eight years ago.

As most people know, Duncan Murphy and David Duncombe escaped with minor injuries. Brian Willson was seated in the middle, and was unable to get out of the way, as horrified family and bystanders realized that the train was not going to stop. All three men were veterans of US wars, and were there to begin a 40 day fast in protest of US arms shipments to repressive forces in Central America.

A press conference had been held and 30-40 people were present with highly visible banners and signs. Although base personnel had been notified weeks ahead, and were again notified in person that morning of vigilers' intent to non-violently blockade the weapons shipments by sitting on the tracks, train operators were given orders to drive through the crowd to prevent anyone from boarding. The train, which had been sitting in view of the protest for some time, escalated to three times the legal speed limit by the time it struck.

Willson was thrown about beneath the train. He sustained a severed ear, a hole through his skull, and lost both legs below the knees. Navy personnel denied medical assistance or transportation to a hospital, and it was only through the medical training of Willson's wife, Holley Rauen, a lay midwife, and Duncan Murphy, a medic during World War II, that he was kept alive for 23 minutes until a civilian ambulance arrived. Upon the day of his release from the hospital less than a month later, he returned to the tracks with a walker and artificial limbs to demonstrate his continued commitment.

After lengthy court maneuvers, the US Navy made a settlement of \$920,000 upon the three veterans and Holley Rauen in lieu of trial. It had become clear that a film re-enactment made of the incident would completely expose the Navy's line of defense as absurd.

WILLSON VISITING KOREA, JAPAN

Brian Willson has been traveling in Asia since July. His first stop was Korea, to join Koreans wishing to reunite their country and protest government repression. A walk was scheduled from North Korea to South Korea, through the DMZ. We have no reports on the success of this mission, but look forward to Brian's return later in the month.

From there, he was traveling on to Japan, to join with people from all over the world in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We hope to have a full report of his activities at the tracks on September 1st.

Willson is currently experiencing increased pursuit from the IRS for his continued stand on resisting payment of Pentagon taxes into coffers. The following is a copy of a letter to the IRS. It was originally accompanied by a photo and information about Eric Lopez, a five year Nicaraguan child was severely who damaged by US bullets when Contra fired on the pickup truck in which he was traveling to a clinic.

"Each time a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others or strike out against injustice, he sends a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

Robert F. Kennedy, on South Africa, in 1966.

DEAR IRS:

(From S. Brian Willson to the Internal Revenue Service)

I am aware of your request for my cooperation in producing monetary amounts, or documents to aid in the collection of those amounts, to satisfy a debt that you claim I owe the United States government. I disagree vehemently with the basis for your claim of my indebtedness as I have explained in previous writings and discussions with the IRS. Therefore I cannot honor your request(s).

This resistance on my part is not personally directed to you or any other person(s), nor is it due to any reluctance to support the need of the common good. Again, my previous communications explain my personal, philosophical, moral, legal and Constitutional reasons for resistance to activities and expenditures of the US government.

I have no assets to speak of. I have given away all funds received from the US government as a result of our mutually agreed upon out-of-court settlement. As you are probably aware, the US Attorney General agreed to payment of a sum of money in lieu of trial for the act of the US Navy knowingly accelerating a munitions train to over three times the legal speed limit, running over me and others while peaceably protesting the illegal shipment of munitions designed to murder and main innocent human beings in Central America.

I am prepared to pursue acquisition of funds in the amount equal to that figure that the US government claims I owe it. But I will donate these funds directly to duly recognized non-profit organizations. I will not voluntarily pay any money to the US government.

I am fully aware that by not cooperating with your request(s) I am extraordinarily vulnerable to being forced to serve substantial time in prison, as well as being subjected to other forms of governmental reference in my life. I am as prepared as I can be to serve the prison ome. I will serve this prison time without my two artificial legs, in an ig-is condition just as the US government left me on the Concord, CA tracks, after severing my legs and fracturing my skull. The Navy ambulance that arrived at the scene provided virtually no medical assistance and refused to transport me to a hospital, causing substantial delay in receipt of the emergency attention my traumatic injuries demanded. I will offer to you an earlier pair of artificial legs, a valuable asset I do possess, that perhaps can be used by another unfortunate victim of US "low-intensity" warfare being carried out in any number of "Third World" countries, I also will decide at various times to partake in political and spiritual fasts for durations to be determined by personal discernment.

I would prefer to be tried in a public proceeding at which time I would have the opportunity to present the legal, as well as moral basis for my actions. I am led to believe that no US administrative or legal tribunal will allow me to present my substantive arguments based on international and US Constitutional law and the Nuremberg Obligation. Thus I do not wish to waste precious funds and the valuable time and work of lawyers and others, in a futile effort. I hope that my example will provoke others to search their own consciences as to their own manner of exercising responsible and lawful citizenship in a society whose government is committing countless lawless and heinous criminal acts on a regular basis in many parts of the world. But no matter what others do, I must follow my own conscience.

The Nuremberg Obligation, one that the US was so adamant in advocating as a standard under international law after conclusion of the Nuremberg trials following World War II, prohibits citizens from committing acts that are illegal under international law, even when commanded to do so by one's government and its officials. Nuremberg established the principle of individual responsibility for the crime of attacking international peace....

I also want it to be clear that I do not have some peculiar desire to spend time in prison or to subject myself to needless deprivation. I believe that in a democracy the ultimate legal and moral authority resides within the heart and mind of each citizen—in conscience. When this government commits a pattern of behavior that consistently violates its own laws, then the government has relinquished its authority to act on behalf of its citizenry. I must act in according with my conscience.

I conclude by quoting from Henry David Thoreau's 1849 essay on Civil Disobedience: "If a thousand men were not to pay their tax bills this year that would not be a violent and bloody measure, as it would be to pay them, and enable the state to commit violence and shed innocent blood."

With all due respect for your position and perspective, I must refuse your request. Sincerely yours, S. Brian Willson. #

NUCLEAR FREE OAKLAND

In 1988, by a large majority, the people of Oakland voted to make the City of Oakland a Nuclear Free Zone. However, in 1992, after a successful lawsuit brought by the federal government and the nuclear industry, Oakland was forced to enact a watered down version of the ordinance.

Three years later, on July 25, the City Council finally approved (unanimously) the implementation plan prepared by City Staff. Under the plan, the City will give preference in awarding contracts to firms (including their parent companies) which do not make nuclear

weapons. Also, the routes for shipments of radioactive materials are clearly designated.

Western States Legal Foundation and other anti-nuclear groups will continue to monitor the ordinance and press for more information about types and amounts of radioactive shipments through the City of Oakland.

Source: WFP &WILPF Newsletter, August/September 1995. \$\pi\$

BAY AREA ACTIONIST UPDATES

ESZTER FREEMAN ASKS FOR SUPPORT

Eszter Freeman, long time member of Nuremberg Actions and Global Peace Farmers, will be entering Santa Rite Jail on Friday, August 11th, to serve a 21 day sentence. She entered Lawrence Livermore Laboratory grounds with several others during the February 20th protests there. She writes asking for letters of support during her incarceration. Her address will be:

Eszter Freeman APP 379 Santa Rita Jail 5325 Broder Bivd. Dublin CA 94568.

The following is her statement when sentenced:

1995 marks the 50th anniversary of the first time a country dropped the nuclear bomb on men, women and children. We were upset when a bomb killed men, women and children in Oklahoma City. We said nothing justified that crime. Yet we called the bombing of Hiroshima justified.

"I refuse to accept the cynical notion that nation after nation must spiral down a militaristic stairway into the hell of nuclear destruction. I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality."

Martin Luther King Jr., when accepting the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964

At the end of WWII the US signed a treaty which included the Nuremberg Principles. These principles prohibit crimes against peace and humanity. The Nuremberg Principles also state not only a citizen's right but her obligation to act to prevent crimes against humanity.

It is clear to me that the existance of nuclear weapons violates this treaty. In designing nuclear weapons, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory is preparing and planning for war. There is only one purpose for nuclear weapons. It kills soldiers and civilians alike and causes unnecessary suffering. It damages the natural environment. The E.P.A. has found plutonium in children's playgrounds from fallout from LLNL. As a cancer survivor, I'm appalled and alarmed that children in Livermore are playing in plutonium while the Labs call these levels safe. Plutonium at any level is not safe. LLNL's actions violate the Nuremberg Principles.

I chose a non-violent peaceful remedy to act to prevent these crimes. Non-violence has a long history of effectiveness for shaping social policy in this country. Non-violent direct action focuses public attention on the Lab's destructive activities and is a step to inspire the changes necessary to convert the Lab. It is fulfilling my right under Nuremberg, to act to prevent crimes against peace and humanity.

I acted peacefully, lovingly, and prayerfully to promote prevention of nuclear war. I acted to speak out about the horror of children playing in plutonium filled playgrounds. I acted with conscience, commitment and conviction.

I teach kids who have been sexually and physically abused. Part of my job is to keep them safe. Their world is difficult enough without the worry of contamination from nuclear weapons.

I acted on my right to prevent crimes against humanity. I am the daughter of a Holocaust survivor. 15 members of my mother's family were killed in the concentration camps. I understand the effects of war on someone I love. The crime of trespass is the crime of not being

silent, not being complicit with nuclear weapons. I was found guilty for keeping my students safe. I was found guilty for making the invisible visible. I did a good thing and I should be congratulated."

JUBILEE PLOWSHARES AT LOCKHEED

Susan Crane and Rev. Steve Kelly, S.J. both long-time activists at the Concord Naval Weapons Station, were arrested on August 7th and charged with three felonies at Lockheed Marietta in Sunnyvale, CA. Around 8:00 am, they walked into a building at the prime contractor of Trident missiles, entered a classified area and found a Trident D-5 missile casing. Using their own blood and household hammers, they began to symbolically "beat their swords into plowshares". They then found the actual plans of the Trident missile. Crane wrote across them "These plans kill children" and more blood was poured by the two.

The two activists were charged with trespassing and felony counts of burglary, vandalism and conspiracy by police and are being held in area jails. The FBI has been called in to consider possible federal charges.

The action took place the day after the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and two days before the anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki. It was part of a coordinated effort on the east and west coasts to clearly say that violence is not a solution to the world's problems. In Newport News Shipyard in Virginia, four people were arrested after they poured blood and hammered the nuclear submarine USS Greenville, which can be used to transport the weapons targeted by Crane and Kelly at Lockheed.

Both groups are calling themselves the "Jubilee Plowshares" in reference to the biblical passage "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift sword against Nation, nor ever again be trained for war." (Isaiah 2:4)

Crane said, "These weapons are so powerful, accurate and numerous that their only purpose is to start a nuclear war. We pay for these weapons with our taxes. We permit them by our silence. We are all complicit in the scandal of building these first strike weapons. We are wasting our valuable resources on them rather than working to clothe, feed and shelter so many who need so much."

Crane was also scheduled to begin serving a sentence for the February trespass at LLNL on Friday, August 11. However, she will more likely be facing arraignment in Sunnyvale.

Contact: Earl Johnson, (510) 632-9273 or (510) 351-1596.#

CALL TO THE DESERT '95

October 6-9, Nevada Test Site

Concerned people will gather at the Nevada Test Site from October 6-9 for the annual Call to the Desert Gathering. Events will culminate with a closing ceremony at the Mercury Gate to the Test Site on Monday, Oct. 9, Indigenous Peoples' Day. More informal than the Easter Gathering, the fall event features spiritual ceremonies, sweat lodges, and Talking Circles for networking and sharing concerns.

Some weapons lab scientists and Pentagon nuclear lifers are pushing for renewed testing, from ranges of four pounds of explosives to 500 tons, (or 200 times the force of the Oklahoma City bomb). Any testing at all threatens life in the Great Basin, and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which nuclear nations promised to sign by 1996.

In addition, multiple bills under consideration in both the Senate and House to rewrite nuclear waste laws would directly impact the proposed high-level waste site at Yucca Mountain. It lies within the Nevada Test Site on land sacred to both the Paiute and Shoshone in the region. The goal of the nuclear industry and its hirelings in government is to designate Nevada as a temporary storage site for high-level waste (primarily spent fuel from all over the US, the Navy and overseas).

Under current law, there cannot be both temporary and permanent sites in the same state.

At the gathering, hot breakfasts and dinners will be provided, as well as water and sanitation. People are asked to bring their own lunches and snacks, as well as dishes, water bottle, warm bedding and jacket, and protection from the desert sun. Per person share of expenses is \$20, and can be paid upon arrival.

All aspects of the event are being coordinated under the guidance of Corbin Harney, representative of the Western Shoshone Nation. Harney is a spiritual leader and long-time activist against radioactive contamination.

Harney says about the need for ongoing gatherings at the Test Site, "When we started praying at the Nevada Test Site in the 1980's, the land there was dying. Even the lizards and the ants were black. Over the years, thousands and thousands of people have gathered there to put an end to nuclear testing. We kept coming together and praying together, and pretty soon they stopped the testing.... Today the flowers and animals are coming back to live in that part of the country. So I have seen our power as a people work.... When you point it out, people say that it is true. Our prayers are powerful if we put them together. That's why I know we can stop the

government from putting the nuclear waste dump at Yucca Mountain. That's why I know we can stop the government from transporting nuclear waste all across the country."

Following camp cleanup on Monday, October 9th at the Nevada Test Site or possibly the following morning, a caravan will travel from the Test Site to Ward Valley. Bring signs, banners, tape, etc. to focus maximum public attention on the crucial issue of nuclear waste.

For more information, contact Healing Global Wounds at PO Box 13, Boulder Creek CA 95006. Ph/Fx (408 338-0147. #

ENCAMPMENT TO SAVE WARD VALLEY October 10-15, Ward Valley, CA



Immediately following a Call to The Desert, a six day gathering will be held to protect sacred lands at Ward Valley, proposed home of a low-level nuclear waste dump. Ward Valley is located 22 miles west of the town of Needles, Ca. Activities will include workshops, strategy sessions, tours of the site, protest actions and cultural events. A Spirit Run is being planned by the Fort Mojave Indians.

Join members of the Fort Mojave, Chemehuevi and Colorado River Indian tribes and other activists. Food and water will be provided by Seeds of Peace. A \$20 donation will be asked for the event. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

The nuclear power industry plans to build a dump to bury long lasting wastes from nuclear reactors in shallow, unlined trenches. Ward Valley is 18 miles from the Colorado River, critical habitat for the endangered desert tortoise, in the middle of five wilderness areas, and right next to the Mojave National Preserve. Area Indian tribes consider Ward Valley sacred homeland.

Elizabeth Chamberlain writes in the July/August 1995 Z Magazine, "By definition, low-level radioactive waste is everything but the spent nuclear fuel rods....That means that the rest of the entire plant, from the concrete walls to the mops used to wipe the floors to the floors themselves, is considered low-level radioactive waste."

For more information, contact the Bay Area Nuclear (BAN) Waste Coalition at (415) 752-8678.

TRACK RECORD

Greetings from the tracks! September 1st marks the 2,970th day of witness at the Concord Naval Weapons Station. Activity here has been brisk of late, with the loading of many weapons destined for the Balkan region. Abraham Zwickel has fulfilled the honor of being the 2,000th arrest for upholding the Nuremberg Principles by blockading the shipment of weapons from the CNWS (actually arrests #1990-2003). While the Sheriff's Dept. has chosen the option of not incarcerating Abraham on some occasions, perhaps out of respect for his age of 92, we honor his intent to save the lives of men, women and children around the world. Abraham has been a life-long pacifist and has inspired many along the way. Greg Getty was the 2,004th arrest, when he assisted Abraham on the most recent occasion.

Abraham has been consistently vigiling and blockading weapons shipments on Monday mornings, beginning at 9:00 am. Anyone wishing to join him at that time would be deeply appreciated.

On July 29th, about thirty people gathered at the tracks with members of the Atomic Mirror Pilgrimage as they conducted the second day of their Bay Area tour. The Pilgrimage has been following the trail of the atom bomb from Arizona to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, making stops at nuclear weapons sites along the way and conducting healing ceremonies in a spirit of atonement.

NEW FEDERAL CHARGES

Actionists Hal Carlstad, Susan Crane and Ezter Freeman are now facing belated federal charges of trespass for hanging a banner over the sign at the entrance of the station, correcting the name to "Concord Naval Death Station". Charges against Maylie Scott have been dropped, apparently because the federal statute being applied involves the violation of a "ban and bar" letter to stay off the base, and she had not received one at the time. Susan and Eszter are currently both behind bars for other nonviolent actions to uphold the Nuremberg Principles at other locations.



Abraham Zwickel blockading weapons truck. Photo: Greg Getty

SEPTEMBER 1, 10:00 AM

COMMEMORATE THE VICTIMS OF THE CNWS
CELEBRATE SURVIVORS OF THE 9/1/87
NAVY ASSAULT ON VIGILERS



CALENDAR

- Every Monday at 9:00 am— Vigil at the CNWS to witness and blockade weapons shipments.
- 9/1: 10:00 am-- Gathering at the tracks. Eighth anniversary of Navy assault on Brian Willson and others at the tracks on 9/1/87. Bring food and drink to share, musical instruments, inspiring tales and hope for the future. Come join the circle.
- 10/6-9— Call to the Desert at the Nevada Test Site. Four days of ceremonies and Talking Circles to heal the lands and strengthen ourselves. See page 3 for more details. A caravan will go on to Ward Valley for the full nuke-waste tour.
- 10/10-15— Encampment at Ward Valley to Protect Sacred Lands. Five days of workshops, site tours, Native cultural events and more. See page 3 for more details.
- 10/7-9- Peoples' Fast for Justice at Leavenworth Prison and local actions. In support of political prisoner Leonard Peltier and to commemorate the millions of victims of the Columbus Enterprise. Events will also include a material aid drive to be transported to Big Mountain relocation resisters in Mid-November. For more information, Contact the Fast at PO Box 170610, Brooklyn NY 11217. (718) 643-9603. #

Nuremberg Actions Wish List:

Filemaker database program and Stacker program for Windows PCMCIA fax/modem card, Type I, II or III

Nuremberg Actions was founded in 1987, by citizens concerned with their responsibilities to stop US war crimes and uphold international law as defined by the Nuremberg Principles. Between the Lines is published 10 times a year and mailed to donors. Additional donations make further distribution possible for educational purposes.

Editor and publisher: Jennifer Viereck Submissions accepted to the 23rd of each month.

Nuremberg Actions PO Box 13 Boulder Creek CA 95006 408-338-0147 PHONE/FAX BULK RATE US POSTAGE PAID Boulder Ck. CA Permit No. 52

Nuremberg Actions

PO Box 13, Boulder Creek CA 95006 Phone and Fax (408) 338-0147



August 12, 1995

Dear friends of Nuremberg Actions:

I hope you are enjoying your summer. I am sure you join me in celebrating President Clinton's commitment yesterday to maintain the moratorium on nuclear tests of any size until a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty can be signed next year. The current negotiating session, scheduled to end in a few weeks for 1995, will hopefully be moved to make some real progress toward consensus now. We must continue to keep the pressure on France to give up renewed tests on the people of the South Pacific in the coming weeks.

We still await the final report from the Department of Energy on whether Concord will be the recipient port for shipments of spent nuclear fuel rods from overseas, under the so-called Atoms for Peace program. Additional comment time was granted, so the decision scheduled for September may be delayed a month.

It has been horrible to watch the footage of cruelty by neighbors to neighbors coming out of the Balkan region in the last days. At the Concord Naval Weapons Station, the trucks and trains are rolling to bring more weapons to the conflict. It would be hard to find a more graphic illustration of how decades of oppression, violence and bigotry can deform the human spirit. Abraham Zwickel has the honor last month of becoming the 2,000th arrest at the Concord Naval Weapons Station since 1987, as he blockaded these trucks headed to the piers.

The good news is, Nuremberg Actions has apparently become a multi-species organization with over 27,000 new members. The Examiner reported on July 13, "Five years after the Concord Naval Weapons Station's last attempt to rid itself of ground squirrels, 27,000 more have moved in-- and the rodents are undermining weapons bunkers, base officials said Wednesday. "They have weakened protective earthen berms over the magazines, they have burrowed under roadways and railroad beds, they've caused cracks in foundations," said spokeswoman Anna Lou Procter. The fastest most efficient way to stop the squirrels is poisoning them and bulldozing their burrows-- but animal protection groups are already up in arms about the proposal." Being unable to read, the squirrels do not seem inhibited by the portion of our non-violence covenant addressing the destruction of property. In the process of converting the base to homes and food sources for the needy (however small), they are engaging in a very direct disarmament process.

Several Nuremberg Actions participants are in jails this week, as you will see in the newsletter. Eszter Freeman is serving a sentence in Santa Rita jail for her February 20th entry of the Livermore Laboratory. She asks for letters of support. Susan Crane and Rev. Steve Kelly, S.J. entered the Lockheed Marietta facility in Sunnyvale on August 7 and poured their own blood and hammered on a Trident D-5 warhead casing. Their action, called Jubilee Plowshares, was simultaneous to a similar action in Virginia, when four people hammered and poured blood over a submarine capable of carrying the Trident first-strike weapons.

Back at the tracks, the December 26, 1994 photo-op pictured here has resulted in belated federal charges for Susan Crane, Eszter Freeman and Hal Carlstad. Charges against Maylie Scott were dropped.

We hope you will be able to join us on Friday, Sept. 1st at 10:00 am, as we gather at the tracks to celebrate eight years of the spirit of resistance. We



hope to have a report on Brian Willson's travels in the last month in North and South Korea and Japan.

As always, our heartfelt thanks to those who have supported us financially in recent months, and to everyone who continues to stand up to crimes against peace, wherever they are. Without delving into grim tales that have been repeated on this page in the past, we are again in great need of your donations to carry our work forward.

With love in our hearts for all life.

Jennifer Viereile (for Novemberg Action

CALL TO THE DESERT

Fri-Mon, October 6-9, 1995
Peace Camp, Nevada Test Site
Closing Ceremony, Indigenous Peoples' Day
Monday, Oct. 9, 10:00 am

Four days of ceremony, sweat lodges, talking circles and networking to heal the land and strengthen ourselves.



Photo: Linda Putnam

WHAT YOU SHOULD BRING:

- Your own lunches, snacks, food to share
- Your own water container, dish, cup, and silverware
- Warm coat and bedding
- Sunscreen, sunglasses and good hat
- Banners, art supplies, musical instruments
- Per person share of cost: \$20

OTHER HELPFUL ITEMS:

Bulk food donations (call for list) Raffle prize donations

PARTICIPATING GROUPS:

Alliance of Atomic Veterans
Bill Motto Post 5888 (VFW) Santa Cruz
Citizen Alert Native American Program
Nevada Desert Experience
Nuremberg Actions
Seeds of Peace
Western Shoshone Defense Project

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Healing Global Wounds, PO Box 13, Boulder Creek CA 95006 USA Phone/Fax (408) 338-0147



ENCAMPMENT TO SAVE WARD VALLEY

The nuclear power industry plans to build a dump to bury long-lasting wastes from nuclear reactors in shallow, unlined trenches. Ward Valley is 18 miles from the Colorado River, critical habitat for the threatened desert tortoise, in the midst of five Wilderness Areas, and right next to the Mojave National Preserve. Area Indian tribes consider Ward Valley sacred homeland.

We must act now to protect Ward Valley from nuclear contamination.



Join activists and members of the Fort Mojave, Chemehuevi and Colorado River Indian Tribes in a week of strategy meetings, protest actions, cultural events and a Spirit Run.

OCTOBER 10th to 15th at Ward Valley, California.

(22 miles west of the town of Needles)

Food, water and sanitation provided. We will ask for a \$20 donation for the event. No one turned away for lack of funds. For more information call the Bay Area Nuclear (BAN) Waste Coalition at (415) 752-8678.

