

News Index 2012

August Rise Up Singing

25th August 2012

25th **Rise Up Singing**

Three Days of Music and Creative Resistance at Faslane

Saturday, Sunday, Monday September 15th-17th 2012

Choirs, Singers, Drummers, Musicians and Creative Resistance

Please come and join us for three days of singing our resistance to the presence of Nuclear Weapons on our shores.

All welcome, no previous singing experience necessary - we will teach plenty of songs.

Saturday: Workshops - Nonviolent direct action, singing, other creative things. Sunday: Massed singing, choirs and musicians perform, dancing, eating. . .

Monday: More of the same!

For more information, to register and to be put on the mailing list to receive massed song and practical information please contact riseupsinging.tp@gmail.com

25th **Saturday, Sunday, Monday 15-17 September 2012**

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11th **TP Nagasaki Die In at SNP HQ**

11th August 2012

TP Nagasaki Die In at SNP HQ

Challenging SNP Resolution on NATO

On Thursday 9th August Trident Ploughshares held a Nagasaki commemoration and

protest at the Scottish National Party's HQ in Edinburgh

In recent days the SNP leadership has announced that it will be asking the party's October conference to approve a proposal to change the long-standing policy of opposing NATO membership.

We wanted to challenge their ludicrous lack of consistency in declaring an absolute opposition to hosting nuclear weapons while being willing to join a nuclear armed military alliance. They are insisting that their commitment to rid Scotland of Trident is still "cast iron". We suspect that this resolve is weakening.

We also wanted to show our respect for the victims of the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki 67 years ago.

The protest took the form of a die-in in the yard outside the office and was accompanied by songs from Rise Up Signing and Protest in Harmony. The SNP staff took a relaxed approach to the event and even offered us access to their toilets. The media was there in numbers and the protest has had wide coverage, including making a front page main story in [the Herald](#).

Trident Ploughshares is a member of the [No To NATO Scotland Coalition](#) whose website has a facility for signing up against NATO membership.

11th [Hiroshima Vigil at Tavistock Square](#)
11th August 2012

Hiroshima Vigil at Tavistock Square

TP Affinity Group Muriel Lesters Deliver Letter to Lockheed Martin

On the anniversary of the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima the Muriel Lesters Trident Ploughshares affinity group demands that Lockheed Martin desists from creating more nuclear weapons.

6th August 2012 was the 67th anniversary of the first use of an atomic bomb, dropped by a United States aircraft on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. On 9th August 1945 Nagasaki suffered a similar fate. In Tavistock Square, London there was a moving ceremony, organised by London Region CND, in remembrance of the victims. There were inspiring messages, songs and poetry speaking out against war and violence as well as looking to a better future in a world free from nuclear weapons. Flowers were placed beneath the Hiroshima remembrance cherry tree. About 40 people attending the ceremony cosigned the letter that the Muriel Lesters were taking to Lockheed Martin the world's largest arms manufacturer.

People were invited to join us as we moved on to Cunard House, 15 Lower Regent St; the UK corporate headquarters of Lockheed Martin. There had been concerns that in this apocalyptic time public transport or any movement might be difficult but in fact London was less crowded than usual and the journey was easy.

A large sign "Lockheed Bomb Makers" was held up pointing at Cunard House while 9 of us handed out leaflets describing Lockheed Martin's lead role at the Atomic Weapons Establishment, Aldermaston, Faslane Trident Nuclear Submarine Base and its global role in the arms trade. A number of people stopped to talk and express support.

A small group went into the reception area of the building which houses other offices as well as Lockheed Martin.

We wished to deliver our letter to the CEO or a deputy but were told this was not possible, however the dignified receptionist assured us that the letter would be given to the company. After more leafleting and a group photo we left promising the security man we would be back! We have been taking various actions in and outside of Lockheed Martin's offices since 2003 so that was no empty promise.

Lockheed Martin is the world's largest arms manufacturer (Campaign Against the Arms Trade). They are involved in many other activities including the UK census. Lockheed Martin have a £3.5 billion contract from the British Government to design and build a new generation of nuclear weapons to succeed trident nuclear warheads, at Aldermaston Weapons Establishment - (AWE) - a bomb factory near reading UK. They run Aldermaston with SERCO and Jacobs Engineering. These companies are all directly implicated in making weapons of mass destruction (WMDs).

The letter we delivered;

Members of the executive Board and members of staff, Lockheed Martin plc, 15 Regent St. London. SW1Y 4LR

We are writing to you once again (please see previous letter below) to ask you to stop violating the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty by working on designing and building a new generation of nuclear weapons. We ask you, on this special day when we are commemorating the atomic bomb being dropped on Hiroshima, to think about what you are doing and what the outcomes of your actions might be. We also ask that you stop making and trading in other weapons and use your abilities to help work towards a happier more peaceful future.

You must know better than we do that modern nuclear weapons are much deadlier than the ones used on Japan. The world was shocked by the horror caused at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It would be much more awful if the weapons that you produce were used. The fact alone of having these weapons and making more is an ethical and spiritual blight on society. There is also a constant danger of an accident causing nuclear damage to Britain. At the same time the waste of resources both financial and human on this dreadful enterprise means that health, education and other worthwhile activities suffer both here and in other countries. Please see over for some information about the results of the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Yours in peace Muriel Lester Trident Ploughshare affinity group.

Information

On the 6th August 1945 the US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima The first atomic bomb was dropped by a United States aircraft on the Japanese city of Hiroshima. The second was dropped on 9th August 1945 on Nagasaki. Little Boy, a gun-type weapon, and the implosion-

type Fat Man were used in the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, respectively. In Hiroshima an area of approximately 4.7 square miles (12 km²) was destroyed. Japanese officials determined that 69% of Hiroshima's buildings were destroyed and another 6-7% damaged. About 70,000 to 80,000 people, or some 30% of the population of Hiroshima, were killed immediately, and another 70,000 injured. In Nagasaki about 44% of the city was destroyed; 35,000 people were killed and 60,000 injured. People are still suffering the aftereffects. ADMIRAL WILLIAM D. LEAHY (Chief of Staff to Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman) said "The lethal possibilities of atomic warfare in the future are frightening. My own feeling was that in being the first to use it, we had adopted an ethical standard common to the barbarians of the Dark Ages. I was not taught to make war in that fashion, and wars cannot be won by destroying women and children." William Leahy, I Was There, pg. 441.

Previous letter

Members of the Executive Board 44 Haslemere Road, Lockheed Martin plc, Wickford, Essex. 22 Carlisle Place, SS11 7LE Victoria, London. SW1E 25.03.2004

Dear Executive Board Members,

We are writing to identify ourselves as the four women who blockaded the entrance of your executive HQ on Monday 2nd February 2004 ultimo for 6 hours commencing at 8.00AM.

As you will be aware during the blockade we made a request via the Police Inspector present, that you send a representative to meet us. We considered it would be helpful for you to listen to the reasons for our action. We also passed on to you a leaflet (see enclosed) which outlines the concerns we have regarding Lockheed Martin's long history of/and current involvement in the international arms trade. During the blockade we also distributed these leaflets to members of the public a number of whom expressed support for our action while many more opposed your presence in a mixed residential/public/commercial area on ethical and security grounds.

As members of Trident Ploughshares we are pledged to non-violent direct action to enable the United Kingdom government phase out its nuclear weapons and thus comply with its signatory obligations under The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The planned £2 billion expenditure over the next decade, on developing the next generation of nuclear weapons at the Atomic Weapon Establishment, Aldermaston, contravenes the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and increases the threat of nuclear conflict. We understand that Lockheed Martin is one of the companies working on the new weapons programme at AWE, Aldermaston.

We would welcome an opportunity to meet with a company representative to discuss our respective views. We look forward to your response to this letter.

Yours in peace,

Ann Kobayashi, Lyn Bliss, Angela Broome, Zelda Jeffers

Members of Muriel Lesters Affinity Group, Trident Ploughshares

www.tridentploughshares.org

The leaflet we gave out, side 1 . LOCKHEED MARTIN, the world's largest maker of WMD, hide

their UK corporate HQ at 15 Lower Regent St. SW1Y 4LR Tel 0207 979 8000

We want YOU to know about Lockheed Martin MEGA MERCHANTS OF DEATH.

- Lockheed Martin have a £5.3 billion UK Government contract to design & build a new generation of nuclear weapons, to succeed Trident nuclear warheads, at Aldermaston Weapons Establishment - (AWE) - a bomb factory near Reading.
- Lockheed Martin run Aldermaston for the UK government with SERCO and Jacobs Engineering. These companies are all directly implicated in making WMDs.
- Lockheed Martin violates the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, signed by the UK, by making these new weapons.
- Lockheed Martin is paid by the UK to undermine the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty & the Test Ban Treaty

We are from Trident Ploughshares, committed to disarming UK's nuclear weapons, declared illegal by the international Court of Justice. We call on the UK to respect the treaty to limit their proliferation. Join us! www.tridentploughshares.org

Side 2

This is what they say about themselves:

Our vision: "As an increasing number of nations of all sizes around the world indicate the desire and capacity to develop nuclear, chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction, it is necessary to expand our field of vision"

Our Aim: "To sustain capability to design a warhead to succeed Trident by facilitating production of British nuclear warheads."

Our priorities: "The key elements of the science-based programme we are putting in place to maintain the country's nuclear stockpile."

Our Future: "We can now look forward to a long-term stable future for AWE and for the UK nuclear weapons programme"

- Lockheed Martin make 'bunker buster' and cluster bombs, and are the world's largest maker and exporter of weapons.
- Lockheed Martin advertised "the only battle-proven hit-to-kill anti-ballistic missile" at the recent London arms fair.
- Lockheed Martin boast they are the makers of "an all-weather precision-guided rocket called the 70 km sniper".
- Lockheed Martin "supports over 10,000 individuals dedicated to delivering WELL-BEING (sic) to the UK".

Scottish Anti-NATO Coalition Formed

A diverse group of Scottish organisations and individuals, initiated by Trident Ploughshares, have formed a **No to NATO Scotland Coalition** to resist the notion that an independent Scotland should become a member of the North Atlantic Treaty (NATO). The move follows the news that the SNP will decide at their October conference whether to accept a leadership motion to change party policy from an anti-NATO to a pro-NATO stance. At its launch meeting on Wednesday the Coalition issued the following statement:

"The SNP leadership are proposing to reverse the party's policy of staying out of NATO, a move completely at odds with the SNP's long-standing principled opposition to nuclear weapons and aggressive wars.

This coalition wants Scotland to be free of nuclear weapons and stay out of foreign wars.

NATO is a nuclear armed alliance with over 5000 nuclear weapons. It was established for mutual defence during the Cold War and should have been disbanded when the Soviet Union collapsed. Instead, it has expanded and become an aggressive alliance force engaged in expeditionary wars. For nearly ten years it has been conducting the war in Afghanistan where tens of thousands of civilians have died and three million people have become refugees. It is also placing a "missile defence" system in Europe which is provoking a new arms race with Russia.

We want Scotland to stay out of NATO and truly stand for peace."

The Coalition aims to share and raise public concern about the implications of NATO membership and to act in solidarity with all those who share that concern.

Please [Sign the No to NATO Scotland Statment here](#). and forward the link to your contacts and encourage them to sign.

For more info visit the [No to NATO Scotland Coalition website](#) or Contact us on 07768312676 OR 0131 229 0993

July No to Nato in Scotland Coalition Forming

21st July 2012

21st No to Nato in Scotland Coalition Forming

Initial Meeting Wednesday 25th July

Following the news that the SNP will discuss at their October conference a leadership motion to change party policy from an anti-Nato to a pro-Nato stance, Trident Ploughshares invites groups and individuals to join an adhoc short-life No to Nato Coalition.

An initial meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th July at 7 pm in the Quaker Meeting

House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL.

The aims of the Coalition are simple: to share and raise public understanding and concern about joining Nato, and to act in solidarity with SNP members and activists who share our view. We believe that we need to act now to prevent the SNP leadership's move from succeeding.

Trident Ploughshares is opposed to an independent Scotland joining Nato on the straightforward grounds that it is a nuclear weapon alliance - a stance that it has recently restated. We appreciate that other individuals and groups who want to join the Coalition will have additional reasons for opposing Nato membership. We just think that it is important that we act together at this time.

The Coalition is open both to groups and individuals. At the initial meeting we hope to spend a short time agreeing an appropriate process and thereafter work on a plan of action.

2nd [Seven people Enter Faslane Main Gate](#)
2nd July 2012

Seven people Enter Faslane Main Gate

SOCPA Charges Brought

Nine activists from Faslane Peace Camp and Trident Ploughshares attempted to enter Faslane naval base this morning. Some were stopped just at or inside the gate but four of the activists slipped past guards and got well inside the base, hiding in shrubs and wooded areas and under sheds, eluding base police for about half an hour. All those who entered the base have been charged under Military By-Laws and SOCPA (Serious Organised Crime and Police Act). Most will appear for pleading in court tomorrow.

The Naval Base was locked down and traffic prevented from entering the base for 45 minutes. The day of action was organised by TP affinity group Rise Up Singing as part of the Peace Camp's 30 Days of Action marking 30 years of continuous resistance to nuclear weapons at Faslane. Some members of the Gareloch Horticulturalist TP affinity group also participated. The action day followed a lovely afternoon of singing and dancing on Sunday. There have been thirty arrests since 9 June the Peace Camps's thirtieth birthday.

Today's action proceeded in two stages. At 7:30am a group attempted to enter through the North Gate. Only one member of the group, slipped through and reached a point about 50 yards inside the gate and briefly unfurled a banner reading "Trident Illegal Immoral". In the second phase of the action at about 12:00 noon eight activists again attempted to enter the North Gate. This time three people made it well inside the base.

Immediately upon being released Brian Larkin said "the serious organised crime happens inside the base and not in our actions for peace and disarmament. It is the ongoing deployment of Trident submarines - each carrying 48 warheads, eight times more destructive than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima which killed 200,000 people - that constitutes serious organised crime and violates every principle of humanity in international law."

Angus Chalmers of Faslane Peace Camp said "This land has been fenced and designated as a SOCPA area in order to make possible the serious crime of deploying Trident." And Margaret Bremner of Trident Ploughshares Gareloch Horticulturalists affinity group added "This action is about reclaiming this land for peace."

Those trespassing presented letters explaining the illegality of nuclear weapons to police inside the

base.

Under the Non Proliferation Treaty the UK government is obligated to bring nuclear disarmament to completion. Instead the UK government has continued to maintain and is now, in replacing Trident, upgrading its nuclear weapons system. The recent news that the MoD has awarded lucrative contracts to arms companies for the initial stages of a Trident replacement programme flies in the face of government arguments that the UK seeks a world without nuclear weapons.

Moreover, Trident forms a part of NATO's strategic nuclear forces. And in a little noticed but highly significant development, the United States yesterday signed accords with Romania for the stationing of US/NATO interceptor missiles and Grigory Berdennikov, the Russian envoy to the International Atomic Energy Agency stated that further talks with the U.S. on cuts in nuclear arms will not occur until Washington changes its stance on the missile shield project in Europe.[1] This system, with its potential for first-strike use against Russia marks the beginning of a new cold war in Europe: Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin said that Russia will develop "a system of overcoming and suppressing any anti-missile defense. If somebody thinks it is possible to surround us with an anti-missile fence, we will break down everything, the entire wall, if someone would attempt to isolate us or make us kneel down."

By breaching base security today Faslane Peace Camp and Trident Ploughshares took a small step to break down the fences that prevent real peace and security. As long as the UK government threatens the peace with weapons of mass destruction members of Trident Ploughshares and Faslane Peace Camp are committed to non-violent direct action to disrupt the deployment of these illegal and immoral weapons.

Further demonstrations are planned for the remainder of the thirty days of action which will finish on July 9th. Amongst other actions, there will be an academic seminar blockade on Friday and a Rebel Clown Army insurgency on Saturday.

For More information on Peace Camp's 30 Days of Action see: faslanepeacecamp.wordpress.com/

1. <http://rickrozoff.wordpress.com/2012/06/30/romania-u-s-escalates-missile-brinkmanship-against-russia/>

June Faslane Peace Camp have stepped up the resistance to nuclear weapons

26th 26th June 2012

Faslane Peace Camp 30 Days of Action Half way Point

Faslane Peace Camp have stepped up the resistance to nuclear weapons

Faslane Peace Camp have stepped up the resistance to nuclear weapons in Scotland in the first 15 days of the 30 Days of Action Against Trident Campaign.

On the first day of the month three Campers dropped a huge banner, which read 'Nuclear Disarmament: If Not Now When?' from the Clydebank landmark gantry crane in Glasgow. Half way through the month a huge banner reading 'THERE WON'T BE ANY JOBS WHEN THE BOMB GOES OFF' appeared on the old gasometer in central Helensburgh.

All the announcements about spending on Trident and its replacement are greeted with joy in the Helensburgh newspaper. Jackie Baillie MSP thinks all these very expensive jobs are a benefit to Scotland, even if many other jobs are lost while this money is wasted. So local anti-nuclear campaigners were delighted when this banner appeared in Helensburgh. Its very visible from the street. We don't know who put it up - some anti-nuclear pixies perhaps - but well done to them!

Two days before the start of the month the indefatigable Barbara Dowling and Mary Millington of Trident Ploughshares shut down the base by walking through the North Gate. On 14 June another two Trident Ploughshares activists, both in their 80's, sat in the road and blocked the North Gate of Faslane Trident Submarine base, stopping traffic from entering the base for 15 minutes. They were arrested and held overnight. Another day eight international activists blockaded both gates, slowing traffic into the base for an hour. Scottish CND groups picnicked at the North Gate on a midgey Sunday. A group of environmentalists walked from Glasgow in pouring rain over two days to reach the base. And two campers, Leonna O'neill and Angus Doyle wandered around the shore line and entered a high security area adjacent to the High Explosives Handling Jetty where nuclear weapons are loaded onto Trident submarines. If you missed these events and want to get in on the action, there's still more to come:

RISE UP SINGING 1st & 2nd JULY: Come and sing Trident out of Faslane and Scotland! Rise Up Singing (a Trident Ploughshares affinity group) has organised a two-day gathering. Everyone welcome! No singing experience necessary. Bring a song to share, a banner and some cake, and we'll provide the tea. Contact: tp2000@gn.apc.org or tel 01436 671845

ACADEMIC SEMINAR ROADBLOCK 6th JULY: On Friday July 6th, academics and activists will participate in a seminar blockade. The trans-disciplinary seminar blockade is about putting social theory into practice. The theme is 'security' and participants are invited to reflect on the complex issue of nuclear weapons from a range of perspectives - governance, securitisation and discourses of 'terror', as well as environmental and social justice. The seminar will claim the public space for democratic debate and involve creative public and participatory scholarship, using a variety of media and forms. Gather at the Peace Camp between 8 and 9.30 am. North Gate from 9:30am until mid-afternoon. Tel 01436 820901

CIRCA 7th JULY: The Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army (CIRCA) will NOT be marching on Faslane nuclear submarine lair on Saturday 7th of July, oh no. Even though the Trident missiles at Faslane could kill all the Clowns on the planet - we won't be there. Even though the Trident missiles at Faslane are going to be replaced at an astronomical cost when all Clowns are feeling the pinch, CIRCA aren't for turning (up). CIRCA will NOT be marching on Faslane, but a ghost army of Rebels Clowns - seasoned corpses and the freshly deceased might, just might, be there! Come on, do the Resurrection-Insurrection Shuffle! ... And the rest is top secret, but do come along and be included!

And all are welcome to get along to the camp at anytime. Spontaneous and unannounced actions are happening regularly which you can join. For more info Contact: 01436 820901

There has been quite a bit of press coverage including a story on the camp's actual birthday 12 June in the Herald titled: 'Looking back: thirty years of the Faslane peace camp'. The webpage includes [several photos from the earliest days of the camp](#)

20th [Activists blockade Faslane Naval Base](#)
20th June 2012

Activists blockade Faslane Naval Base

On Monday 19 June at 7 o' clock in the morning activists of the Faslane Peace camp blockaded the Trident Naval Base. Three people locked on in front of the South Gate.

From the original five people at the North Gate two were arrested immediately while the rest were able to blockade one lane of the road. The blockade lasted about 90 minutes.

A spokesperson said on behalf of the Peace Camp: " We are having this blockade today because we want to show our opposition against nuclear weapons. We express our fear and our anger in a nonviolent way. We ask the British government to listen to the opinion of the majority of Scottish people and MSP's. The People do not want Trident! They do not want this base with it's nuclear weapons in Scotland. Due to the fact that in the next few years Scottish independence may be achieved now is the time to put pressure upon the British government. Instead of starting to put money into a Trident replacement we want them to shut down the Faslane Naval Base and stop their nuclear weapons program."

An international activist added: "This blockade was a very international one. People from all parts of Britain and activists from Spain and Sweden were involved. I think that it is my right and my duty as a global citizen to do nonviolent direct actions against nuclear weapons as long as our governments do not fulfill their duty and stop fighting wars. Nuclear weapons are illegal by international humanitarian law and I want all countries to respect this and make a step to a more peaceful world."

This blockade is part of the 30 days of action from the 9th June to the 9th July. To find out more about what has happened and will happen in the future visit the peace camp blog at www.faslanepeacecamp.wordpress.com

20th **Trespass at Coulport Nuclear Weapon Depot June 14, 2012**
20th June 2012

Trespass at Coulport Nuclear Weapon Depot June 14, 2012

Angus Chalmers and Leonna O'Neill of Faslane Peace Camp entered RNAD Coulport in the early hours of the morning of 14 June. They reached an area adjacent to the High Explosives Handling Jetty where nuclear weapons are loaded onto Trident submarines before being apprehended by MOD Police. They were arrested, held overnight pled guilty next day in court to Military Bye-laws charges.

They left the camp on foot at approximately 10pm with the intentions of seeing how close they could get to Coulport under the cover of darkness. By the time they were approaching the outer fence perimeter the two still hadn't been apprehended or detected by security or any of the night vision cctv cameras, and so decided to continue to see how far luck (or the ineptitudes of the security system on what should be the most heavily guarded naval depot in the UK) would get them.

They decided to approach the Explosives Handling Jetty via the shore line and entered by wading water and climbing a razor wire fence. At this point they decided to walk visibly and announce themselves to the first police they saw. To their surprise they were met with zero security personnel and were able to access a jetty a matter of feet from the Explosives Handling Jetty where the Trident nuclear warheads are loaded to the Vangaurd submarines.

Angus climbed a further fence into the establishment setting off the bandit alarm and alerting the MOD security and cctv camera operators. Both were soon apprehended by MOD police and arrested and charged with military by-laws and the Serious Organised Crime and Police Act 2005 (SOCPA). Both were held in custody until court on Thursday afternoon where the SOCPA charges were dropped and they pleaded not guilty to the by-laws charges.

Leonna and Angus said "This is evidence that the Couport Nuclear Weapons Depot is unsafe. The capacity for this technology to irreperably destroy life and the environment should be reason enough to ensure that it is safe guarded and protected in a way that does not allow for human

error or complacency. The relative ease at which we were able to approach and enter Coulport on foot and the close proximity we were able to get to the Explosives Handling Jetty is surprising and disturbing”.

11th [TP Muriel Lesters Protest Lockheed Martin in London](#)

11th June 2012

TP Muriel Lesters Protest Lockheed Martin in London

On the 6th of June a group of Trident Ploughshares members visited the corporate headquarters of Lockheed Martin the largest arms manufactures in the world (latest estimate by CAAT). We handed out leaflets as well as holding a large sign saying "Lockheed bomb makers" which drew a lot of attention. Many passers by took leaflets, several people engaged in conversation with us and one young man joined us in leafleting for a while then came back with biscuits.

The offices at 15 Lower Regent Street near Piccadilly Circus have some other businesses in them, Lockheed Martin's name is not on the door with the others, but we know they are there. We ask them to stop their nefarious activities.

Lockheed Martin with Jacobs Engineering and SERCO run the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Aldermaston on behalf of the British Government and are designing and building a new generation of nuclear weapons. They are also developing and making missiles and drones as well as many other offensive weapons.

All the best Zelda on behalf of the Muriel Lesters affinity group.

9th [30th Anniversary of resistance at Faslane 2012](#)

9th June 2012

30th Anniversary of resistance at Faslane 2012

A 30 Day campaign of anti-nuclear insubordination 9June - 9 July

Non-violent direct action everyday! Come join in actions. All welcome. Email [faslane30\[at\]riseup.net](mailto:faslane30@riseup.net) or [leonna_o_neill\[at\]hotmail.com](mailto:leonna_o_neill@hotmail.com) for further info or phone on 01436 820901.

THIS IS NOT A PARTY. The intention of this campaign is to resurrect an anti nuclear campaign at a time when it is essential in connection to the Scottish independence
debPeace Picnic. Sunday June 17th. Noon to 4pm Faslane North Gate. Helensburgh CND invites you to a peace picnic. Jeely Peace cafe from Stirling CND will provide catering. Bring banners, musical instruments and friends.

PEACE MARCH From Glasgow to Faslane 21st-23rd June: Meet at George Square, Glasgow at midday on Thurs 21 June to walk to Faslane in the name of peace and no nukes! We will stop to camp en route overnight. The pace will be relaxed. Bring banners and practical shoes!

Rise Up Singing 1st & 2nd July. Two-days of singing. North Gate of Faslane. All welcome! No singing experience necessary. Bring a song to share, a banner and some cake, and we'll provide the tea. Contact [riseupsinging.tp\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:riseupsinging.tp@gmail.com)

Academic Seminar Roadblock 6th July. From 8:30am. All Day. Participants are invited to reflect on the complex issue of nuclear weapons from a range of perspectives. The seminar will claim the

public space for democratic debate. Papers, workshops for debate, and other kinds of learning. Gather at Peace Camp between 8 and 9.30 am.

Campsie Socialists and Green Party demo. 28th June 10am. Faslane. "The Campsie Socialists and Well Red Book Club Acting Strange Theatre Company" will perform a play.

CIRCA, The Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army (CIRCA). Faslane nuclear submarine lair. Saturday 7th July.

ate and Trident replacement.

May 60 people Demonstrate at South Korean Embassy in London

14th May 2012

14th **60 people Demonstrate at South Korean Embassy in London**

Solidarity with the nonviolent resistance to naval base construction on Jeju Island

On Wednesday May 9th from 2pm-5pm around 60 people gathered outside the South Korean Embassy in London in solidarity with the nonviolent resistance to the building of a naval base in Gangjeong village in Jeju. There were people from Trident Ploughshares, CND, Pax Christi, the Columban JPIC, Sisters of St Joseph of Peace, the London Catholic Worker community, Veterans for Peace UK, a small group of Swedish students and around 10 Koreans most of whom had not known each other before.

Bona and Park filmed the demonstration and made a great video of it which you can find [here](#). Three musicians kept us entertained with political songs and several people read out the letters they had written to hand in to the Embassy.

3 of us went into the Embassy at 3 p.m. for around 40 minutes to meet with Mr. IM, Byungho, the Consul/1st Secretary. We told him in detail of our 3 major concerns - militarisation; human rights abuses and lack of democracy; and environmental destruction. We also told him about the growing international concerns and that there were demonstrations in at least 8 other cities in 5 different countries this week. He said several times that he did not know anything about the situation in Jeju and does not have an opinion about it. He did not know about the environmental protection issue or the human rights issue (and did not seem to care about it either!) but he was sure that Chinese and Japanese naval power is increasing and Korea needs more naval bases especially in the south of the country. He said his Government's intention is to protect its people using military tactics which was their right and that the Ambassador has no right or power to ask the Government to change its policies.

He asked why British people were protesting. We said it was of concern to all people if human rights abuses took place, environmental protections were not respected and when countries were preparing for war - we said much more of course and asked that our concerns be sent to the President. He did not seem very interested and said he did not think the President would read any report even if they decided to make one. He only came to London last year, is a diplomat and has to support his Government and is terribly busy with serious things to consider. He was very dismissive but I think it was important that we insisted on the meeting and we are fairly sure he did know much more than he let on.

April Muriel Lesters keep up pressure on Lockheed Martin

24th April 2012

24th

Muriel Lesters keep up pressure on Lockheed Martin

On a sunny Friday 23rd of March 2012 the Muriel Lesters TP affinity group met at Eros in London and walked to 15 Lower Regent Street. The security man in this office block has denied that Lockheed Martin is inside but they consistently denied being in their previous building. We stood outside the office giving out leaflets informing the public of what Lockheed Martin does and with an eye catching sign pointing at the building saying "Lockheed Martin Bomb Makers".

The security person peered out at us and the door opening was changed from automatic.

The pavement is not as roomy as it was by the previous building and we have not found a way to put up banners but plenty of people pass by and many took leaflets. Some stopped to talk to us and we had several interesting conversations. After about an hour and a half we had handed out all our leaflets and we went to a nearby cafe for a warm drink and to make more plans.

8th **Trident Ploughshares** activists join the **NATO GAME OVER** action in Brussels.



8th April 2012

Trident Ploughshares activists join the NATO GAME OVER action in Brussels.

On 1st April 2012 over 800 European peace activists from more than 10 European countries protested NATO's warmongering policies outside the western military alliance's headquarters in Brussels. During their 'NATO Game Over' they formed themselves into nonviolent humanitarian intervention teams and tried to enter and shut down NATO HQ believing that a military alliance that globally wages war, deploys nuclear weapons and is prepared to use them in a first strike, is a danger for world peace. They were drawing attention to the coming May 20th/21st NATO summit in Chicago and sent a very clear message that NATO creates more problems than it solves.

7 members of Trident Ploughshares (Angie, Barbara, Hazel, Ian, Janet, Merri, and Sarah,) joined with Leonna (from Faslane Peace Camp) and Krista (a former Dutch MP) to form one such intervention team. We made our way into Brussels and after receiving a text message specifying a time and place walked into a huge field where we saw the fence surrounding the base and which we were meant to climb over. But police were already beginning to line up. Looking around we suddenly saw lots of other intervention teams appearing and we all started to move towards the fence. Our group was on the left flank where there were few police. We hoped we could get at least some of our team to the fence.

Suddenly around 40 police horses galloped into the area and started surrounding those of us on

the flanks. Krista and I held hands as we were both scared of the horses that were being shoved at us to move us into the centre of the field. Linked like this we were able to stand our ground for a while - trying to allow time for other groups to get to the fence. Protesters were already being arrested, their hands bound by plastic ties behind their backs, surrounded by police guarding them. The horses were circling us and one nasty policeman kept shoving his horse, which was foaming at the mouth, and kicking at us with his foot and telling us his horse was trained to kick and hurt and we had better move. After what seemed like ages police on foot came to arrest us and carried us over to round 50 other protesters. After a short while on the ground in a pile some of us managed to release one of our hands from the plastic ties and made another run for the fence, which we reached - the response was quite violent with police dragging us back and tightening the plastic really tight this time. My shoulder was wrenched as they carried me back and I was unable to stop crying with the pain - maybe next time I will be more sensible and walk!

None of our team managed to make it over the fence but around 20 others did make it, to be met by police dogs and more police. 483 of us were arrested and we were made to sit in long lines with our hands tied behind and between each others legs so we could not move. After some time in the field after they had rounded up most of us we were herded to the police buses with horses behind and walking police beside us shoving us, treating us so like animals going to slaughter that we soon started bleating like sheep, which was quite funny but also thought provoking. The buses took us to a police holding area where we were processed and put into large cells containing around 30 to 50 prisoners each and after several hours we were released. These administrative arrests do not usually result in any charges being brought as it would overwhelm their legal system.

Whilst we were engaged in the attempt to enter the NATO site, 300 'lawful' demonstrators were at the main entrance of the NATO headquarters explaining the action to the press and supporting our action. The press coverage was very good in Belgium and some other countries but minimal in the UK, as usual.

When peace is at stake, nonviolent intervention is necessary. NATO is a select club of countries that globally wages war, intervenes to force regime change and undermines the rule of international law. Our protest showed that there is growing public abhorrence to war and that we need peaceful co-operation to deal with the real security issues facing our world community rather than violence and war which just exacerbates the problems. We believe that NATO must disband.

Trident Ploughshares is a member of the European Anti-militarist Network and more joint actions are planned.

View photos of the action [here](#) Watch a video [here](#) and another [here](#)

Written by Angie Zelter, of Trident Ploughshares, 5th April 2012.

March Muriel Lesters action

21st 21st March 2012

Muriel Lesters leaflet outside Lockheed Martin

Muriel Lesters action

On 7th March around midday 3 members of Muriel Lesters TP affinity group stood outside the London offices of Lockheed Martin with a sign saying "Bomb Makers" leafleting, passers by and those who came out of the unmarked building. When we started it was raining a bit, our leaflets went soggy after being offered more than once, the rain got worse then improved. As the rain got less more people took leaflets and several stopped to ask questions, and wish us well.

No one from inside said anything to us, although they were aware of our presence. Over the years we visited Lockheed Martin at their previous offices on a side street near Victoria. There were handy railings and a corner where we could put up a table. On different occasions we, locked on across the front door, locked on across all entrances and exits, did a banner drop from the roof and sat in in the board room as well as leafleting, sending Christmas cards (signed by the public) singing carols. The new premises have less pavement but more people passing.....watch this space. (Photos may appear on the website, they can't get sent around, sorry) All the best Zelda

19th [3 Month Prison Sentence for Anti-Nuclear Court Graffiti Protest](#)

Press Releases & Updates 2012



19th March 2012

3 Month Prison Sentence for Anti-Nuclear Court Graffiti Protest

Barbara Dowling Gets 3 months Jail Sentence

Two peace activists were sentenced today in Dumbarton Sheriff Court for painting "political graffiti" on the walls of the court following a 2010 trial in which they maintained that the court did not uphold international law with respect to the illegality of the Trident nuclear weapon system. Barbara Dowling, a retired Occupational Therapist, 67, of Knightswood was given 3 months in prison and Janet Fenton, 64,

Secretary of Scottish CND was given 120 hours Community Service.

In October 2010 Barbara Dowling and Janet Fenton appeared at a session of the JP court within the Sheriff Court building in Dumbarton accused of a breach of the peace during a blockade of Faslane naval base, home to the UK's Trident nuclear weapon submarines. Justice Ross refused to hear their defence and, according to the defendants, appeared to have made up her mind before all the evidence was put before the court. She would not allow them to put their argument that they had a right to disrupt the illegal work at Faslane under international humanitarian law.



Immediately following the trial they painted on internal walls of the court slogans indicating the failure of the court to uphold international law. At the trial last month Barbara and Janet accepted that they had painted the court's walls but maintained their not guilty plea as they felt that the public needed to know that the court did not uphold international law. Finding them guilty Sheriff Anderson deferred sentence until today in order to obtain Social Enquiry Reports.



The women still felt justified in their actions and were disappointed that the Social Enquiry Reports did not accurately represent their positions. Barbara Dowling said " I did what the courts refuse to do: I upheld international law in regard to nuclear weapons. I am not guilty of a crime and I am not co-operating with an unjust punishment" Janet Fenton said "I consider that I do Service for the Community all the time in working for peace. Doing 120 hours for the Community shouldn't be a problem"

Contacts Jane Tallents tp2000@gn.apc.org
Janet Fenton 07795 594573 Notes:
Trident Ploughshares is a part of the international nuclear disarmament movement. Trident Ploughshares activists

have pledged to disarm the UK Trident nuclear weapons system in a non-violent, open, peaceful, safe and fully accountable manner.

17th **Eighth Report from Gangjeong 16th March 2012**
17th March 2012

Eighth Report from Gangjeong 16th March 2012

So much to tell you. I started writing this inside the police station and then the Immigration Centre and now am back at Father Moon's home finishing it. It is so good to be back and free again.

Monday 12th March.

Up early as usual by 5.30 a.m. for the blockade at the main gate. Beautiful clear day with the Halla mountain in the background. Slight scuffles with the crowd not wanting police to take pictures of them, then a Catholic Mass at 10 a.m. I took pics and then quickly went to the community centre to get an internet connection and catch up on emails. Back to the blockade - still going strong - great sushi rolls of rice and veg and drinks handed out to everyone to keep them going, exercises, dances, songs, speeches - the amount of background support work is incredible.

Around 3 p.m. I hitched a ride with a friend in the p.a. van around to the port where the SOS team (the water based group) were attempting to get their kayaks out of the port and into the Gureombi area. I changed vans to the SOS van with the kayaks in it (as I am now a member of this group too) and was treated to a mad, terrifying, accelerated rush around the port roads to find a place to launch the kayaks, the police rushing around after us to try to prevent the launch. Eventually 2 kayaks were thrown into the water and 2 activists jumped in after them. I threw them the paddles and they were soon off, to be surrounded by police launches. This kept the attention on them while priests and crowds gathered at the port for their mass. There must have been about 200 people gathered at the port and suddenly we set off and overwhelming the few dozen police who were still protecting the entrance we threaded our way past them and through some smallish tetra-pods (the location of which is not according to the development plans and are being challenged in the courts). We approached some razor wire, rocks and a huge concrete pier. One of the church ministers managed somehow to scale the wall of the pier and get a rope down and so about 50 of us clambered over the rocks and up the rope. I am terrified of heights but with so much willing help I was soon hauled up by 5 or 6 strong men. Then followed a most extraordinary hour. Around 40 people were suddenly transformed into priests - their pristine white robes with purple and gold mantles worn over their ordinary clothes.

Some of the priests stayed below on the rocks with the majority of the congregation and the nuns, where a makeshift altar appeared with a p.a. system. One of the nuns started a song and prayers and mass followed. By this time a large contingent of police had appeared at the foot of the pier but they let the mass proceed. There is a certain reluctance to arrest priests while actually in the middle of their prayers.

img696|right> I persuaded one priest to climb up the lighthouse at the end of the pier and he said his mass from the heights, in full view of the whole port.

Meanwhile, some of the early SOS team who had been on the rocks from early morning suddenly entered the site and started to climb up a digger. We saw Seri (a Korean musician) and Benjie (a French activist) climb right on top and stop the work of the crane that was drilling the rock to prepare it for blasting to enable the caissons to be placed. This was a brilliant action that everyone loved and it was effective at stopping the work too. We later learnt that both of them had been assaulted by the Daelim and Samsung workers. Seri had her knee twisted very badly and her neck strained too.

After the mass, we were joined by quite a few of the SOS team who had managed to get to the pier by swimming once their kayaks had been seized. We all decided to climb down from the Gpier on the Gureombi rock side and go to the sacred rocks with them. I was suddenly presented with a pair of bolt-croppers (that I had asked for several days previously) and it was clear that I needed to get down too. But I could see no way down the pods that I could manage. I tried to overcome my fear with several people helping me but I just froze up. Finally, the Minister who had spent the night with me and Sung-Hee on the 7th March, when we hid during the dark hours in the smaller tetra-pods, and who knew of my fear, found a couple of people to help me down. I was taken by the arms and lowered onto their shoulders and then they slowly crouched down and I was taken off by another and managed to scramble through a route at the bottom of the pods and onto the rocks. There was a huge cheer and more willing hands helped me for 20 minutes to

get onto Gureombi proper. What a relief!

There were now about 30 of us on the rocks before the wire and only me with cutters. The penalty for damaging the fence is very high and although everyone wanted the fence cut no-one was really ready to take the risks. So, I started cutting and made a hole big enough to get some people through. This first cut was a surprise to the police and therefore several people managed to enter before the police interposed their bodies to stop more getting through. I went on to make other holes and as I worked police came to guard each hole. I made my way slowly down the fence cutting as much as I could each time. The police tried to natch the cutters away but the razor wire was an impediment and I stopped before it became too easy for them. A police photographer soon appeared and took plenty of footage. I was told to stop but just stated that the fence was illegal and was stopping the public from their right to pray at their sacred rocks. By this time I was getting really tired and asked if anyone else would like to help. One brave priest took the cutters and started to help me and we took it in turns. We must have cut at least 10 holes when it started getting dark. I passed my cutters to a friend so they could be hidden and used again in the future and made my way back to where Father Moon was lying half in and half out of one of the holes. Father Moon is a very famous priest here since his work with the labour movement during the democracy movement protests under the military dictatorship in the 1980's and currently with his passionate denunciations of the naval base.

As night fell, Father Moon was eventually allowed inside the destruction site and I quickly followed and was arrested at 7 p.m. for destruction of private property and trespass. I walked over the rocks to the police car as it would have been dangerous for the police to have to carry me on this occasion.

The friendly translator was there again at Seogwipo police station and he laughed appreciatively when I told him that today I was 'Save Gureombi From War Preparations'. Refusing to answer any questions I was quickly on my way to Jeju City Police station .

Tuesday 13th March I spent the next 2 days getting to know my other 3 cell mates better. There had been 16 of us eventually arrested with 2 released immediately as they were under 21. 4 of us were women and shared a cell. Apples and strawberries (in season here in Jeju at present), chocolates, a couple of books in English and Korean papers were sent in by supporters and we had visits from lawyers and villagers. We exchanged life stories as Seri spoke good English. One of the women (about 56 years old) told of her work in the democracy movement in the 1980's and her continuing work against militarisation and for unification.

Wednesday 14th March By 2p.m. most of those arrested had been released and only 2 priests were left plus Benjie, Seri and myself. The lawyer told me that by 7p.m. I would either be released or taken to a court for a judge to decide if I would be detained for a further 10 days for investigation and then several months until trial. I started preparing my presentation as to why I needed to be released to prepare properly for a trial. At around 6p.m. I was told I was to be released, was given my possessions and taken to the exit door but was met by a dozen men and women from Immigration with papers who took me to an immigration detention centre.

Poor, over-worked Sung-Hee and the valiant Minbyun lawyer witnessed it all and shouted encouragement. Benjie was also taken but he went straight to a detention centre near Seoul from whence he was deported to Hong Kong but at least he is free now. Seri remained in Jeju City police station but was released around 10a.m. on Thursday 15th March.

Meanwhile, late on the Wednesday I was able to see the lawyer who explained that I could be kept another 48 hours and then there were various options - I could be deported or sent back to prison to await trial. The detention centre was less comfortable than the police station with a small room where I was isolated and with no access to natural light. My clothes were taken from me and I was dressed in a rather smart blue and black jump suit that would have been great to go jogging in but unfortunately there is no access to any outdoors exercise, so, I did some indoor

exercises instead.

Late that night I was allowed to receive a call from the British Vice-Consul (Jamie Bend) who was very pleasant and said he had heard of my arrest from the papers, was I in good health, was my family informed and did I need a lawyer. I thanked him and said everything was in hand, explained the issues and situation and said I would contact him if I needed further assistance. I started my hunger strike at 7p.m. (48 hours after being arrested) and said I would continue until released.

Thursday 15th March After a rather boring but restful morning I was told I had a visitor. And there was Mi-Kyoung a friend from the village with a book for me to learn Hangul and lots of smiles and hugs. She runs a women's shelter in Seogwipo and is part of the SOS team. She gave me a really amazing gift for my family and said I must visit Jeju for a holiday with her and her husband one day when the struggle is over. I feel quite overwhelmed by the generosity, gratitude and love of so many here for so little on my part compared to their daily struggles. From 3 to 6p.m. I was interviewed by the Immigration officers with a Minbyun lawyer present and Regina to help translate.

I admitted to entering the 'destruction' site, cutting the razor wire, taking part in the villagers daily requests to the base to stop blasting Gureombi and to stop building the base. I did not admit to any crimes saying I was upholding international law and trying to prevent preparations for war crimes and crimes against peace, explained about the 1000 US bases, many of which surround China and Russia, and that the US had openly proclaimed their ambition to be the dominant super-power with control over land, sea, air and space, that the US/Korean agreement enabled the US to use any Korean military base in whatever way they wanted and there was evidence to show that they would bring nuclear weapons to the naval base, that US nuclear weapons were illegal etc etc. I also explained that the razor wire was preventing villagers from their lawful access to a sacred site and that I was supporting them.

They said this was not allowed under a tourist visa. But I argued that a tourist was also a human being and had a right to support Korean friends and accompany them in their daily struggles. I also said that all my actions were lawful and the proper place to have a discussion about the unlawful placing of the fence, the contamination of water sources and the issue of war preparations was in a court of law, that I would like to clear my name of the charges against me and urged them to release me so I could argue these points in a court of law before a judge as neither they nor I were lawyers. I said I would prefer not to be deported but to go home on my scheduled flight and would be prepared not to go to the base again or attempt to get onto the Gureombi rocks. We negotiated the terms of my pledge as I said I still needed to be able to have the right of free speech and to talk to people and the press. We were then told to wait half an hour while they discussed it all. Suddenly I was called into a meeting with the Chief Immigration Officer, and after a pep talk, signed a pledge and was released at 9p.m.

I think it was the best compromise I could make and was lucky not to be deported straight away, like Benjie, but if I break the agreement I will be forcibly deported immediately. I always try to keep my promises at all times so that my word can be trusted and so will keep away from the destruction site.

I was greeted by supporters, taken to an art gallery where an exhibition of rock rubbings of the Gureombi was being set up, given an amazing Korean meal and then was brought back to Gangjeong. I was taken to the Town Hall to meet the Mayor who was all smiles and gave me a big hug and asked for a photo. He is on the far left.

Friday 16th March While spending the morning sorting through my photos and writing out this report I was called out to a meeting in the Peace Centre where the Bishop of Jeju and Priests were holding a mass (yes they do hold masses of mass's) with around 60 or so people in attendance (I wish we could get these numbers out to all our events!). I was asked to speak and

expressed my admiration for all they were doing, sympathy and solidarity for the Jesuit father, Kim Jeong Wook, still in custody for the actions of the last few days, how we all needed to overcome our fear of the consequences of disobeying the authorities when we were acting to stop militarisation but that I could be deported and suffered little compared to Koreans who would be facing the worst consequences. I also said that the authorities could deal with one or two people cutting the fence but that if many tens of people did it then the prisons would soon be full and the impact would be much greater. There was a great deal of applause at this. I thanked them all for their actions and solidarity and said I was honoured to have been a part of their struggle - it was of global importance - we are all fighting the same battle - to end the culture of war on our fragile planet. The Bishop translated for me.

There are more interviews lined up and a full day planned for meetings in Seoul. This may well be my last report from Jeju. I hope it has given you a flavour of the struggles going on here.

Please note that since January 2010 there have been over 400 arrests here and this is likely to increase as the blasts continue to destroy the area. If you plan to come and lend your support to the villagers then do not provide your real name or flight details over the internet as you may have heard of the 3 US Veterans who were denied access three days ago. Meanwhile, there are many ways you can help the campaign.

Please sign the Avaaz petition and send it on to your friends - see - http://www.avaaz.org/en/save_jeju_island/

Please keep in touch with the campaign and join the protests outside the Korean Embassy when they take place if you can. Here is a picture of Kate Hudson - General Secretary of CND - outside the South Korean Embassy with Camilla and others yesterday. And remember too that the South Korean corporation Samsung is the lead contractor building the Navy base on Jeju. Boycott Samsung! Love and peace, Angie

17th **No New Nukes: Protest at Hinkley Point**
17th March 2012

No New Nukes: Protest at Hinkley Point

The largest rally against nuclear power for at least three decades in the UK

Around 1000 people converged on Hinkley Point in west Somerset on the weekend of 10th-11th March 2012 to mark one year since the earthquake, tsunami and start of the Fukushima nuclear crisis in Japan, and to demand that the UK abandon its plans for new nuclear power stations at Hinkley and up to seven other sites in England and Wales. The 24-hour blockade that followed the 'surround' action was said to be the first ever of a nuclear power station in the UK. Stop New Nuclear issued a statement on 14 March thanking everyone who took part, with a round-up of media coverage and a call-out for support. The links can be found here:<http://www.indymedia.org.uk/en/2012/03/493576.html>

The weekend involved a rally and 'surround the power station' action, followed by a 24-hour blockade of the entrance to the existing power station. People came from all over England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Ireland, France, Spain, Portugal, Germany and Taiwan; and, notably, a number of individuals from Japan took part, including a pair of Fukushima evacuees and a Buddhist monk and nun. Speakers included Green party leader Caroline Lucas MP; environmentalist Jonathon Porritt; Kate Hudson, General Secretary of Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament; Steve Mitchell from the French Nuclear Phase-Out Network; and local anti-nuclear activist Nikki Clark; with musical entertainment from Somerset-based activist folk band Seize the Day, and words of encouragement from the band's lead singer, Theo Simon, who had helped

occupy the recently-evicted Langborough Barn.

Theo led demonstrators on a tour of the land EDF plans to begin clearing and excavating later this month. Allegedly inaccurate signs marking sections of the land as part of the Hinkley B nuclear licensed site were removed, with other signs being defaced, and double harris fencing around the recently-evicted Langborough Barn being torn down. Security for EDF tried to evict people parked and camping overnight in the designated car park, before eventually retreating after heated words with some of the organisers. Around 100 people stayed on for the blockade, with over 60 still in place by 9am on Sunday, and others joining later in the morning.

Shortly after 1pm on Sunday, the Buddhist monk and nun led a procession to the beach to float lanterns in memory of the many thousands of victims of the earthquake and tsunami, and present and future victims of fall-out from the triple meltdown at Fukushima. The blockade ended with a closing circle at 3pm. One man was arrested late on Sunday afternoon, after most people had left, for allegedly stealing a sign. This was the only known arrest over the course of the weekend, with police adopting a largely 'hands off' approach to the weekend's demonstrations.

12th **16 people arrested in the Gureombi rock.**
12th March 2012

16 people arrested in the Gureombi rock.

A protest high up in the air

[March 12] A protest high up in the air: 16 people including Benjamin Monnet, Kim Seri and Angie Zelter were arrested in the Gureombi rock.

I just came back about one hour ago from the Seogwipo police station to meet the arrested on March 12, including above three in the Gureombi rock. A long day again for many people here in the village. Four people including Dr. Song Kang-Ho have entered the Gureombi by kayaks from early dawn-around 5am and occupied the tetra pods site near the rock, which have also been used on March 7.

Among them, two people- Benjamin Monnet, a French activist and Kim Seri -climbed up to a crane that had drilled a large area of rock , which started in the afternoon.

Seri explains what really happened at the time (I hope my memory is correct)

"I could not stand any more of the crane destroying rocks. So I crawled underneath wire razor. Then a Daelim thug suddenly came to me and pushed me back toward that wire razor. As I tried to enter forward, another thug also pushed me. At the time I hurt in my left leg and left arm (She was limping when she walked in the police station in the night). One of them severely pressed my neck so when I was on the crane near for two hours later, I found my leg, arm, neck were all painful. But I could not really feel about my body condition when I ran toward the crane from the thugs from whom I wanted to escape. I was just desperate to stop the rock being destroyed. And I saw Benji who had been trying to protect me from such violence was very quickly running passing by me, already reaching to the top of crane before me. He helped me to climb up the crane then. (Benji was also pushed back by the thugs when he tried to protect Seri).

The two stayed on the top of crane near for two hours, shivering in coldness in thin swim suits. They were eventually arrested under the charge of 'obstruction of business, by the policemen who flocked like crows underneath them.

According to Seri and Mr. Lim Ho Young whom have gotten information by talk with the construction workers or one's own research, the site the crane was drilling is where the rock bed is to be eventually blasted after being put with explosives for the formation of caisson-production area, the 2nd work area of 250 m length by 70m width size, with the use of 35 ton explosives. (Please imagine how large it is considering that the Gureombi rock is about 1.2 km whole one body.). In the 1st work area where 8 ton of explosives would be used for blast, another crane was working near the coast with strange equipments nearby it and yellow electric codes being laid in inside water. Is if for the blast of the rock bed underwater? Seri wondered.

But not only that... "I was happy today. How long it has been to see the whole Gureombi rock again. How beautiful it is to see from the top of crane."

How beautiful Seri and Benjamin are today. For near two hours, thanks to them, the destruction of people's Greombi could stop, to the joy of people who cheered for them!

In the nearby room where Seri was investigated, there was Angie Zelter who bravely cut the wire razor in front of policemen so that about 20 people could enter the Gureombi rock as people gathered into to the coast, risking dangerous files of tetra pods and pitched stone bank to protect the two amidst sun-set.

Though Angie was scared to climb down hanging onto a rope among the dangerous tetra pod files, Angie would later reply to the policemen that her name is 'Save Gureombi from War Preparation.'" And she would be charged of damage on property. Last time, her answer on her name was ' Save Gureombi for Peace against War.' On Feb. 25, her name was 'Save Jeju.'

Angie knew she would be arrested again only one day after her release. She has been arrested on March 9 when she has entered through a fence, along with about 30 people, breaking it with others including a pastor Lee Jeong-Hoon and Fr. Kim Jeong-Wook who would be imprisoned soon

Among the arrested today, there were two teenagers -one boy and a girl- who were eventually released hours later. Except for the two, 14 people were eventually carried to the Dongbu police station in the Jeju City to stay night there in its custody room. Some of them were arrested in front of construction gate where they protested against the police's illegal arrest of people inside the Gureombi that is absolutely public space. Among the arrested, there was Mr. Song Chang-Wook who has been feeding himself only one meal a day since movie critic Yang Yoon-Mo's fast.

There were many new faces today including a wife of a renowned photographer Lee Si-Woo. She was hurt her head when she crawled underneath a wire razor.

Thanks to Save Our Sea team who encouraged people to enter the Gureombi, despite the risk of dangerous files of tetra pods and pitched stone bank, about 50 people could enter to the Gureombi, though 16 people would be eventually arrested, surrounding the uniformed police line inside wire razor with their diverse costumes, talents and songs.

The Catholic Fathers held a mass near the port where people could watch what is happening inside the Gureombi. Fr. Moon-Kyun s climbed up to a light house, fluttering his sacred white robe in the wind. A little distant from it, more than 10 young Catholic fathers sat in a line, leading the mass in solemn mode.

By the sun-set, the whole Gureombi rock looked happy in long time again with many people cheering and singing there.

Destruction will go on tomorrow, too. Nobody knows how many arrests and imprisonments would happen tomorrow and coming days. The numbers of arrest since Jan. 2010 is now reaching almost 400 or highly likely more. Everyday people here have to endure early dawn siren by which many people have already been suffering for auditory hallucination, confrontation with police, physical and psychological risk etc. Still more and more people seem to come here. More and more people seem to have concern with people's beloved Gureombi.

As the sun set, the young policemen also sought for their sleep, too. It is for those young people that we fight to inherit them this Peace Island so that they should not be a cannon fodder by a war base here.

It is told another 4 blasts happened today, too.

See jejunin article [here](#) <' > 4 2

11th [Seventh Report from Gangjeong: 29 Activists Break Through Fence](#)

11th March 2012

Seventh Report from Gangjeong: 29 Activists Break Through Fence

Bishop Visits Angie Zelter in Jail

11a.m. Sunday, 11th and I am back in Gangjeong - it really feels like home. I had a quick change of clothes and then I was grabbed by a reporter for an interview and then told the SOS team (they are the ones that organise the boat and swimming actions of which I am a part) wants to meet me at 4p.m. But there is a press conference before that at 2 p.m. And loads of people to hug so it is a good idea I had a nice rest in the police station! As there is no work being done on the site today there are no blockades - thank goodness.

The morning of Friday 9th started early as usual with the blockades being set up around 5 a.m. I showed my face, danced and sang and said a few words as usual and then set off for the 'secret' action.

Gathering together there was a sudden run for about 10 minutes (I could hardly keep up) to a portion of the fence where a banner was quickly put on the fence showing a gate to be opened. It was drawn aside and some of us broke through the fence with crow-bars and crawled through. Rather rough brutes working for Daelim construction company started kicking at us and trying to stop us get in but most of us managed to enter the 2 holes made. I was kicked in the breast but it was not bad and I soon got away and ran into the site.

We were all over the place - the construction workers did not know which way to run. The police were soon called in and we were slowly arrested. I was able to take lots of pictures of inside the site before I was caught and given 3 warnings - called 'Miranda' warnings for some reason I have not yet fathomed.

I was told I was arrested for violently taking down the fence and illegally trespassing. As usual I politely refused to walk away and it took a long time for around 10 police-women to arrive and move me - I do not think they have much experience of carrying dead weights. But they were very sweet and managed eventually. It only took them about an hour to find us all and I was put in a car with one of the priests who was with me and the others put in a bus. We then spent several hours waiting while the riot police tried to force their way out of the main gate so our vehicles could get out. The villagers were blocking it.

We were taken to Seogwipo police station and interviewed. There was a very nice translator for me - a tour guide on the island - but he did not have much to do as I was refusing to answer all the questions. The police women soon found out all about me on the internet and got my passport details through the airport and asked questions about how, where, when with whom etc but I just said that for today I was 'Save Gureombi for Peace not War', I was a global citizen living in Ganjeong and that if they wanted to get hold of me they should ask the Mayor as I lived in different houses at different times. The police station has no facilities for keeping prisoners and so we were then sent off in a police bus altogether to Jeju City. It was a route I did not know and with the tour guide beside me it was an interesting ride! (I hope I am converting you all to direct action!)

Jeju City police station was a real experience. Everyone quite kind and gentle. Food reasonable. Large airy cells arranged in a semi-circle around the reception desk with the front wall of each cell being glass so you could see everything going on. Our watches were allowed in with us too. Over the 2 days I had 2 visits - one with Sung-Hee who was able to inform people of my arrest and condition and the other with the Bishop of Jeju who wanted to personally thank me for taking part in the action. I said it was my honour. The rest of the time was spent resting and learning a little hangul and a few more words of Korean.

We were all very pleased to have taken part in this action. I think around 29 of us managed to get in and breaking the fence is considered quite a serious offence here so it was a breakthrough in many ways. The catholic community backed up by a few presbyterians were the main people involved and I am very impressed with their dedication and resolve. The Bishop told me that many bishops on the mainland were also supportive and that the naval Base would be a major discussion point in their Congress next week.

This morning around 7a.m. we were slowly released and then put in a police bus that kindly brought us back to Gangjeong. We will be informed of our court cases by mail. It will be quite a big case as it involves catholic priests and Jesuits from the 'Jesuit Resdcue Service' that I have been learning about. Oh there is so much to tell you all about but I have to go to another press interview and then the formal press conference so I only have a few more minutes left.

Most importantly, the actions over the last few days are having an increasing political impact and yesterday, Saturday, the opposition parties made a common pledge for the election that they would stop the construction going ahead and hold an investigation. It is also expected that the process the Governor of Jeju started a few days ago will result in his demanding the Navy to stop and then the Navy will counter-demand and I will not go into all the gory details but it amounts to a continuing conflict between Jeju and mainland Korea that will probably result in court cases arguing about who really had administrative power over this project. Meanwhile the actions will continue.

I have just heard that 2 veteran activists from the USA will be joining us soon, which is good as there is only another week or so before I go. I just wish I could stay for longer but we need to keep our campaigning going in the UK too and it is all connected. Love and hugs to you all and please keep the protest letters going to the Korean Embassy - it all helps.

Loads of pics can be found at jejusori.net/ and the group facebook is nonavalbaseonjeju

10th [British Nobel Peace Prize Nominee arrested in South Korean naval base protest](#)
10th March 2012

British Nobel Peace Prize Nominee arrested in South Korean naval base protest

Peace activist and nobel prize nominee Angie Zelter is amongst those who have been

arrested in ongoing protests against the building of a new naval base on Jeju Island in South Korea. The military base is due to be built on the island which was named an "Island of World Peace" by the South Korean government in 2005.

Local villagers and activists have raised concerns over the environmental destruction of the island, which has several UNESCO World Heritage sites, and its potential to escalate military tensions in the region.

Explosions have already begun on the Gureombi rocks on the island to prepare for the construction and hundreds of protestors have been involved in non-violent blockades of the site. There are reports that local police have used aggressive tactics against non-violent protesters.

Local villagers have been engaged in a 5 year long struggle to prevent the construction which threatens the sacred coastline of the village and the fragile corals in the bay. 94% of Jeju islanders voted against its construction and have used every democratic means available to them to oppose it. There has been support for their stance from the local governor and police but it is feared that the Korean government is under huge pressure from the US to complete the project. A popular slogan used by those protesting against the construction is "Touch not one stone, not one flower"

The base will contribute to the growing US military presence in the region, with China as the focus. It is set to become a port for U.S. Navy Aircraft Carriers and Aegis destroyers fitted with SM-3 missile interceptors as part of a growing global US Missile Defense system. The growth in the Missile Defense system risks heightening international tensions as it is seen to enable the US to launch a first nuclear strike without fear of retaliation and could precipitate a new global arms race.

Speaking before her arrest Angie said:

"With all my heart I believe that Gangjeong villagers' peaceful lives and the pristine nature of Jeju deserve to be protected from this aggressive act by the Korean Navy and its US backers. I am happy to do my little bit to help .Building the naval base does not advance the security of Jeju or South Korea - it just adds to military tension on and around the Korean peninsula. This affects us all."

Professor Dave Webb, Chair of Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, who has just returned from the island said

"Jeju Island has been designated as a World Heritage site by UNESCO - as such it is the concern of all of us. We cannot allow the military to destroy such a unique resource. Jeju is a beautiful Island, once the scene of a massacre of some 30,000 islanders by their own government. It was named "Peace Island" to commemorate its tragic past. Now it looks as if the people are fighting once more for their village, their culture and their livelihoods.

8th [Sixth Report from Gangjeong 8th March 2012](#)
8th March 2012

Sixth Report from Gangjeong 8th March 2012

I am so tired as the last 2 days have been very intense so excuse me if this is a bit rambling. The evening of 6th March was a busy time as the town was called for an emergency meeting to decide what to do as the dynamite was to be delivered the next day. The Mayor called on the whole village to come out with their cars and lorries and block the roads early the next morning to try and stop it being delivered. I heard later that around 20 vehicles were used by the village and several hundred people blocked the road at 2 or 3 places.

It is difficult to know how many people were arrested - around 10 I think and most were released that evening. The police are trying not to arrest many people and just removed them and confiscated their vehicles. When the villagers have time they will try and get them back.

I was part of the sea based group. We were 14 people who were to kayak and swim into the blasting area during the early hours of the morning. My friends found me a wetsuit and after a couple of hours sleep we were up at 3a.m. and went to a secret launching place and using 4 double kayaks paddled quietly along the rocky coast, into the destruction security area. It was a bright moonlit night and very beautiful and I love kayaking. We managed not to be seen in the bright lights of the area as we were all in black and my bright white hair carefully hidden in a hat which kept me warm too! We landed around 5a.m. and hid ourselves close to the blasting area amongst the huge tetra-pods. We were to stay hidden until around 8 - 10 a.m. The kayaks returned. There was to be another group kayaking in at 10 a.m.

The tide was coming in and the water rising so we kept having to change places trying not to get trapped. We eventually emerged with our flags and tried to get closer to the precise area of the blast but of course there were loads of riot police and also coastal police swarming over the area nearby and we did not manage to stop the blast. The second wave of kayaks did not manage to get to us either so there were just 3 of us (2 Koreans and myself) those first 6 hours or so but later on Benjie and the others evaded all the police boats and got in by swimming close to the rocks as the police boats have to avoid damage by keeping further out. One police boat did get damaged and was out of action for the day.

Eventually 14 of us were very visibly protesting right in front of the the blast area. We spent most of the day on the rocks unable to stop the blasting. It was really horrible watching it - to be so close but unable to prevent it. Most of us were crying but also determined to do what we could knowing that the combined protests of the day would be raising the political stakes, at least.

We were informed, by mobile while we on the rocks, that the Governor of Jeju had made a written public announcement to the Department of Defence. He called for a hearing process, part of a pre-condition for cancelling the licence or making a stopping order, and he said if he did not get the hearing he would consider cancelling the Navy license for concreting over the rocky coastal area (which he does have the power to do).

We swam back to the port at around 5 p.m. tired and cold and some of us immediately went around to the blockade site to join the blockade in our wet suits. We heard that many politicians from opposition parties had arrived throughout the day, making their statements of support - lots of speeches - and there was a huge amount of national media attention.

After a quick shower and change of clothes, it was back to the village peace centre to hear about the political and media success of the day despite the blasting going ahead and to discuss plans for the next day. Which is today - 8th March - International Women's Day.

This was the day when not only would more dynamite be delivered (apparently it has to be brought each day as they do not allow it to be stored on site) but also when a right wing conservative, nationalist, pro-base group would be coming over from the mainland to protest in favour of the base. The Mayor was scared there would be violent confrontations and urged that we keep peaceful.

I was sound asleep by 11a.m. But was awakened by the village siren calling us all out again at 4 a.m. A large 'caisson' (large concrete block of roughly 15 stories high) had arrived to be placed in the sea to start the breakwater. We saw it later on in the day - horrifyingly large and intrusive,

dominating the sea-scape. And, like yesterday, there were around 25 sea vessels on the water again including the Korean navy, coastguards and police boats.

Today, I decided to join the land group not the sea group. This turned out to be a good choice as the swimming group could not get very far, unfortunately, and eventually returned to land to join the blockade.

I arrived in the dark to find a police bus across the road with rows of riot police blocking our entrance to both gates but was able to follow villagers climbing down off the road to make their way along the river-side, and climb back up the rocky steep bank with the needed help of a rope that had conveniently been attached to some trees. Thus we were able to join the others who had gathered early to start the blockade. People who still had vehicles managed to go round by back routes so soon there were several hundreds of us sitting in the road before the destruction gate. The police got another bus and blocked the road the other side of the bridge. This was a help later on as it kept the police between us and the pro-Navy base group.

The morning passed fairly quietly and very productively as I was in demand to do tons of press interviews for the Korean TV, radio and printed media because of the rock occupation yesterday. Of course there were no international or British press there! The interviews were good and very thorough and allowed me to cover lots of the most important issues like the threat to the local water supply, affects on local agriculture and fishing, the protected environment being destroyed, what real security is about, as well as the need to transform away from a war culture and the problems of militarisation and the dangerous super-power confrontation between the ever-expanding US/NATO military empire and China, the US's stated intent to "contain and control" China and enforce corporate globalization and free trade etc etc.

The villagers asked the Navy to come out and explain themselves, made speeches, sang songs, handed out hot food and drinks, and kept everyone's spirits up. I was asked to speak again and explained that many people around the world were with them and shared their pain, they were not alone and that concerned friends were protesting at the Korean Embassy in London. They all cheered and clapped.

Thanks Lucy and Camilla for making the effort - it all makes a difference and helps keep the villagers spirits up.

After many people had spoken, including the leader of the major opposition party, the Mayor once more asked for the Navy to come out and talk to us. With no response he then said we had to enter the base and lots of pushing and shoving began. At this I managed to join a small group of Catholics protesting at the base of the gate behind the main riot police line and somehow wriggled into the base via a small open door. A Korean Jesuit priest managed to get in after me but others were just too late and the police managed finally to push against the crowd and close the gate leaving me and the priest inside! I was able to stand very visibly on a high piece of ground, waving my earth flag and the priest made a dash for the gate and clambered up it. Amazing. He stayed there, way out of reach. The police brought loads of cushions and it looked like they might try and push him off which would have been really dangerous but he just climbed down the other side - so nimble and neat, even the police were smiling and we all cheered of course!

Meanwhile the shoving and pushing continued for a long time and then finally calmed down. Police came up and questioned me, told me I was illegally trespassing and breaking the law, and as usual I shook hands with all the police, said I was legally there on village land with their permission and was trying to stop preparations for a war of aggression that the US was planning against China, smiled, said I was a global citizen and today I was called 'Stop the Blasting of the Gureombi Rocks', was nonviolent and not a threat to anyone. After quite some time lots of policewomen came and carried me out of the gate, where I joined the Catholics who were still at

the base of the gate.

Around 1p.m. the right wing crowd arrived but could not pass over the bridge to us because of the police and so we did not have to confront them directly. Instead they made loads of high volume speeches and played nationalistic tunes, There were not more than a hundred of them and they only stayed for a couple of hours, which was a great relief. Meanwhile some of the villagers and protesters had dressed up as beautiful women, some in national costume (including some men) and passed out flowers to everyone to celebrate women's day. Lots of jokes were made and everyone had a good time.

More interviews kept me busy until the Mayor called the blockade off, the police went home, and we all marched with our banners to the port to look at the caisson and protest at that site for an hour.

It is now 10.30 p.m. and the village meeting for the next days plans is still being held but I have decided to go to bed and catch up on the plans for tomorrow in the morning. Good-night. Angie.

6th **Fifth Report from Gangjeong 5th March 2012**
6th March 2012

Fifth Report from Gangjeong 5th March 2012

Professor Yang Yoon-Mo on 27th day of hunger strike

Professor Yang Yoon-Mo is now on his 27th day of hunger strike in prison on Jeju Island in South Korea. He is back in jail for interrupting Navy construction vehicles. Last summer Yang, while in jail for lying under a construction truck, nearly died as his 71 day hunger strike only ended when Jeju Island Catholic Bishop Kang convinced him to stop.

He restarted his hunger strike when sent back to jail and vows to continue as long as necessary. He explained, 'If Gureombi (the sacred rocky coastline) lives, I live. If Gureombi dies, I die. Do not cry for me. Cry for the future generations who may not be able to feel the beauty of Gureombi. Gureombi is the medium to connect myself and the sky. The self, the sky, Gureombi have become one. This commitment is a call from God.'

The fate of the rocks was on the minds of all the village as they gathered today outside the Seogwipo police station for a press conference where 6 or so villagers plus the Mayor spoke and where (as the only international) I also had to speak. I am just having to get over my nervousness about public speaking without notes - having each sentence translated does at least give me time to think! The village believe my vocal presence is important to show that there is growing international opposition to the naval base - that the issue is more than just a local affair - so I am urged to speak at every event. The village had recently bought a van with a p.a. system and this was used to good effect so we could all hear the speeches clearly, as could the police. Here is the Mayor speaking in front of the p.a. van. A letter was delivered to the Police Chief while the villagers waited and then we all came back to await the public announcement from the Jeju Governor. Seogwipo is the 2nd largest town on Jeju and only about 20 minutes away from Gangjeong and we all travel in the village bus.

There has been some intense political lobbying of the Governor of the Island, the Provincial (Island) Assembly and the Police Chief of Seogwipo Police Station by the Mayor and the Vice-Chair of the village who spent most of last night at meetings and negotiations. This was after an intense village discussion - open to us all - democracy really in action! We are all informed what is happening, who is seeing who and often invited to discuss the plans and process too.

At around 2p.m. we heard that the Governor along with the Island Council had issued a

statement stating that the blasting would be postponed to enable further clarification. This sounded good but there were no cheers. There is little trust that a statement like that will stop the blasting. And when the Governor later came to the Seogwipo Police Station, (they have responsibility for all the explosives and the policing of the destruction site) he was apparently snubbed and told the Police Chief had other planned meetings and could not see him. There is fear that the pressure from the Navy, USA, and Central Government is over-riding the local democratic process.

The sound of drilling (the holes for the explosives) was still audible when a few of us visited the port area overlooking the destruction site and there were bus-loads of police. Maybe we will learn more tomorrow. There have been 45 holes drilled in the rocks so far, and once started the blasting will continue for 5 months! Meanwhile, more information is emerging that some of the drill holes entered the underground water springs that provide the majority of the water for the whole island and water was being lost. There are fears that if the drilling goes ahead the fresh water of the whole island will be severely contaminated and depleted. Plans are afoot to try to halt the lorries bringing in the dynamite as the villagers do not trust the political statements about postponing the blasting. Some of the young people here are tweeting all the time and had heard that water engineers are being prevented by the Navy from checking on the water situation.

The same afternoon the weekly mass (they take place at 11a.m. every Monday and Tuesday) took place as usual at the base entrance. The Catholic Bishop of Jeju is behind the campaign and I am at present staying in the home of a retired Catholic priest who is now living in the village and providing a living space for Catholics who come to help out. I have asked to interview him for an article for the Catholic press. Apparently the Protestant church has not engaged in the struggle being more conservative.

Sung-Hee and I did our solo vigils at the gates before going to dinner with some journalists from the mainland who wanted to interview me. This was followed by the nightly candle-lit vigil where we were briefed by the Mayor and Chairman of the village and the usual sharing, songs and dancing took place. Jung-Min, a friend from Seoul, arrived with 4 others to help out in these coming tense days. The villagers keep saying that they just need to hold out until the elections in April but I fear that will not be the end and wonder how long these people can keep up such a pace of campaigning.

Love and peace, Angie.

5th [Urgent message from Gangjeong Village!](#)
5th March 2012

Urgent message from Gangjeong Village!

Dear friends,

Starting today, Gangjeong is in an emergency situation. Nearly 700 police have arrived from the mainland in Gangjeong village to monitor the blasting of Gureombi, the volcanic rock coastline, and the dredging of the seafloor. Not only will the marine life, including endangered crabs and coral reefs, be swept away, the blast has already impacted the fresh water springs that the majority of the island is dependent upon.

Though our numbers are small in the village, we will do our best to fight to stop the blast of Gureombi. It is still uncertain whether the Seogwipo Police will allow the Navy to blast Gureombi on Monday, when the Governor of Jeju Island is supposed to make his decision.

Please send an email to the Governor NOW asking him to please stop the blast of Gureombi.

Thank you for one minute of your time. We urgently need international solidarity NOW.

In peace and justice, Gangjeong Village

Mr. Woo Keun-Min, Governor The government of Jeju-do 312-1, Yeon-dong, Jeju-si, Jeju-do
REPUBLIC OF KOREA Fax: +82 64 710 3009 E-mail: jejumaster@jeju.go.kr

4th **TEXT OF THE LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR**
4th March 2012

TEXT OF THE LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR

We urge Governor of Jeju to stop the illegal construction of Jeju Naval Base, and completely re-evaluate the project.

Dear Governor Woo,

We are peace activists from many different countries attending the International Peace Conference which was held in Gangjeong village and the 4.3 Peace Museum. We are deeply concerned with the series of incidents surround the naval base issue. We urge you to act decisively and stop the construction.

We were shocked to see so many errors found by the Technical Verification Committee of of Jeju Naval Base/Military-Civil Compound Tourism Port. Given the results of the Technical Verification Report, it was clear that the lay-out of the Base was NOT designed to serve a dual purpose despite the Navy's original proposal. However, the report is missing the critical and rational conclusion, which is re-evaluation of the entire project. This fact alone should be enough to stop the illegal construction. On February 22nd President Lee, Myeong-Bak made it clear during a press conference that the construction of base will continue no matter what. Immediately following the press conference, relevant vice-Ministers held a meeting and discussed how to restart the base construction. Once again we were shocked to hear this news. The most important obligation for the ministers of government is to protect people's lives and property and to secure the public order and justice. But the decision made by the high government officials completely goes against their

. On February 23rd Bruce Cumings, the chair-professor at the University of Chicago in United States said the following, "If war breaks out between China-and the U.S. over Taiwan, the U.S. will likely use Jeju Naval Base for the war. This means that China will likely attack Korea in reponse. This scenario is very dangerous. Obama has withdrawn U.S. troops out of Iraq, but the U.S. is still concentrating its force in Pacific. This is ultimately related to China." He emphasized that Jeju Naval Base will be used as part of U.S. war strategies to defeat China. We are all in complete agreement with Prof. Cumings's opinion, and we would like to express our concerns over the Naval Base construction.

Dear Governor, We are also aware of the fact that the Jeju municipal court found guilty and sentenced Father Moon, Jeong-Hyeon and 3 other clergy members on Feb. 24. Since last April more than 220 villagers, including peace activists, have been arrested and 15 have been imprisoned for peacefully protesting. The movie critic, Yang, Yoon-Mo has initiated his second indefinite hunger strike within a year, a potentially deadly affair. All of these events gravely disturb us. We believe that the construction of naval base, which doesn't receive any support from Gangjeong villagers and Korean citizens, will ultimately end up failing and will only leave many side-effects behind. Many military base construction sites around the world are a testament to this.

Governor Woo, You can stop the illegal construction of Jeju Naval Base by making decision to re-evaluate the Navy's original proposal. We firmly believe that Gangjeong villagers' peaceful lives

and the pristine nature of Jeju deserve to be protected. Building the naval base does not ensure the security of both Jeju and South Korea. Korean peninsula is becoming potentially one of the largest "powder kegs" in the world. Let us reverse the course that we are presently on, away from war and insecurity, and let Jeju represent a transition to disarmament and peace.

Once again, we urge you to make courageous decision to call re-evaluation of the original plan and stop illegal construction of Jeju Naval Base.

We wish you and your family the best of health.

Signed on the 27th February 2012 by Bruce Gagnon (US) Coordinator of Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space; Dave Webb (UK) Convener of Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space; Atsushi Fujioka (Japan) Board Member of Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space; Mary Beth Sullivan (US) Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space; Denis Apel (US) Campaigner against the missions of Vandenberg Air Force Base, California; Oh Kwang Hyun (Korean resident in Japan) Priest of Protestant Church, Osaka; Mariko Kuroki (Japan) Network Cosmopolitan, Japan; Natasha Mayers (US) Artist/Co-founder of the Union of Maine Visual Artists; Angie Zelter (UK) Peace & Environmental Campaigner/founder of International Women's Peace Service; Kiyoko Matsuno (Japan) Japanese citizen in solidarity with the Gangjeong villagers. On behalf of all the 28 participants present in the Jeju International Peace Conference, Feb 24-26, 2012.

2nd **Fourth Report from Seoul 3rd March 2012**
2nd March 2012

Fourth Report from Seoul 3rd March 2012

The days pass so quickly here. On Tuesday 28th February I was needed to give interviews with a progressive Korean military publication who asked searching questions about how South Korea can protect itself from North Korea and China without US bases, what I think about South Korea getting nuclear weapons to protect itself from North Korea (this is something being seriously considered!) and why I was here. It was an opportunity to discuss the ever expanding US military presence in north-east Asia, what real security consists of and ways to stop proliferation.

Walking back to the peace centre along the fence line destruction workers were painting over the villagers' slogans and art with their own rather bland but professional scenes of the beautiful countryside around. It is part of the myth the Korean navy and Samsung are propagating - that this naval base can co-exist with the tourism in the area. But as it is the navy base that is destroying this beauty I am sure that very soon pictures of missiles and bombs will be added along with messages to point out the sad reality.

Later I attended the evening candle-lit vigil that is held in the village peace centre every evening if it is not being held at the base or outside the police station - though often these vigils are being held at all three places at once! The Gangjeong villagers certainly have stamina and can teach us a lot about regular and inclusive communication. The vigils are a regular that anyone can attend so they can catch up on what has been happening that day, who has been arrested, who released, what the latest political developments are, how people are feeling, to introduce new people and make plans. Taking turns at the mike they say whatever they want to share and most of them, men, women, young and old, sing a song too. It is very moving. The songs are often traditional ones adapted for the struggle and often seem to be made up on the spot. Everyone is appreciated, clapped and honoured. I was asked to speak about how I felt when swimming from the harbour to the rocks and when confronting the police, as I had been missed at the previous nights vigil, and I offered up a song too. Then a young mainland Korean woman, who had come to live in the village to support the struggle, led us all in a series of dances (a Korean style Zumba session) that she says is a kind of therapy - not only does everyone loosen up but it is

hilarious and good fun.

I am writing this from a friend's house in Seoul as I had been invited to talk to groups here. Yesterday I spent a very productive couple of hours with 10 of the lawyers from Minbyun - Lawyers for a Democratic Society - who have been giving valuable legal support to the villagers. They have taken out several law suits against the naval base project and against police for their violence. They wanted to hear about our legal strategies in the UK and especially about the legal arguments used by Trident Ploughshares. They were especially interested in the International Humanitarian Law arguments. I left them a copy of 'Trident on Trial' and also 'Trident and International Law.' They want to translate 'Trident on Trial' into Korean!

A strategy session with around 7 of the Korean groups involved in the Save Jeju Campaign and based in Seoul was also fascinating and productive and I have a clearer idea now of what internationals can contribute to the struggle. Last evening there was a rock concert here in Seoul organised as a fund-raiser and again I was asked to speak and to encourage all the young folk to get to Gangjeong in the next few weeks as things are getting very critical. The political context is that President Lee Myung Bak's announcement on 22nd February to enforce the nuclear base construction despite publicly reported planning irregularities on the layout of the harbour, and despite the massive 96% naval base budget cut for 2012, was followed by the prime minister stating that there will be no hesitation in repressing the opponents of the base. Despite these threats local villagers are still trying to recover possession of their sacred Gureombi rocks but each day more razor wire goes up cutting off more and more of the rocks from access by canoe. And each day villagers are arrested and we have just heard that five more police squadron units (another 250 anti-riot policemen) from the mainland will soon come to Jeju to 'control' the protests. On top of that a Samsung dredging barge has started work today. (Should we all boycott Samsung and write to them telling them why?) Many National Intelligence Service agents (Korean CIA) are patrolling the area including the village itself and there are fears that the suppression and violence of the police will worsen.

I will be glad to get back to Jeju tomorrow to help support the direct action which is my main task here. But for now I must complete the follow-up work that always comes up after meetings!

But let me leave you with this cheery picture of 2 members of a local band outside the peace centre in Ganjeong. The man facing you with his gong is not only a great musician but also a real joker - he had the villagers in fits at the evening vigil - I only wish I could have understood what he was saying!

Love and peace, Angie.

Don't forget to call the Korean Embassy and let them know that Jeju does not want a naval base! The militarization of Jeju Island runs contrary to its designation as the "Island of World Peace."

February Third Report from Gangjeong

28th

28th February 2012

Third Report from Gangjeong

Yesterday we internationals went into Jeju City for a press conference so that the Mayor of Gangjeong could explain the situation and internationals could make statements as to why they were supporting the villagers struggle against war and for peace.

We then went to City Hall and the Global Network folk presented a letter to to the Governor of Jeju - you can see the letter at the end of this report. We held banners outside while the letter was delivered. A local supporter in the city then treated us to a wonderful lunch. The restaurant owner often goes to the village with food donations and is one of many Jeju Island supporters. As we were traveling back to Gangjeong we learned what a small place the island is - only around half a million people - many people being related or having gone to school together - and this means that local pressure can be applied even to the police. Maybe this is why there have been 6 changes of police chiefs in the last 7 months!

Over 1000 mainland police were drafted in last August/September last year and this is deeply worrying as mainland police have not been sent to Jeju since the 1948 massacre when they were implicated in the many tortures that were carried out. The pressure is definitely increasing as the resistance has grown and even though the last Jeju Island police chief had more than 100 villagers arrested in the last couple of months this has been seen as too lenient. Only 4 days ago he was replaced by a mainland police man from the riot police unit. This was after the President of South Korea stated that the naval base project must continue. There are elections this April for the National Assembly and we are informed that it is likely that opposition groups will get in and they have all pledged to review the project

. On arriving back to the village we went straight to the port as we were told the police had been preventing locals from taking canoes out to the Gureombi rocks to pray and four villagers including Mr. Cho Kyung-Chul (Co-vice mayor), Mr. Kim Gab- Deuk (a Village elder) and Mr. Kim Young- Woo and Mr. Kim Young-Sam had all been arrested. (A vigil is taking place at the police station as I write). For more details, the facebook named No Naval Base on Jeju is reliable.

After taking a few pictures and handing my coat and boots to Miki (my Japanese friend) I grabbed a life-jacket and behind the backs of the police entered the water - it was not as cold as I had expected, luckily - and swam out to great cheers. This is something the local protesters often do but it was encouraging for them to see an international resisting too and this is what we are here for - to give encouragement to the locals who are tired out after 5 years of intense opposition.

Benjie soon joined me and he climbed onto some nearby tetra-pods (as the huge concrete blocks are called) while I went through the port entrance managing to avoid the police boats by keeping close to the rocks. The life-jacket enabled me to rest from time to time and after about half an hour I came across 2 local activists in their canoes who had been there a while and were determined to spend the night on the rocks. They took me a little further by canoe and I then continued on land around the razor wire being followed at all times by 3 or 4 riot police which meant I could not crawl through as before.

I had a chance to enjoy the star fish, crabs, and fish in the rock pools and the diving birds and also the many springs of fresh water that the area is famous for - protesting always has these special moments! A little later I saw a navy diver emerge from the water with a measuring

tape - we think this must be preparations for further blasting.

Making my way back after a few hours I found Dr Song Kang Ho with a canoe. He is a strong and committed protester and features in the film you can see [here](#). He offered me a lift back to the dock and said how much he and the village appreciated what I was doing and how it is energizing them. He said I was very brave - I certainly do not feel that way as it is much easier for internationals than for locals. But the genuine appreciation of the villagers has already made my stay here worthwhile and I thank all of you who have contributed and made this possible.

As we arrived back in the port we could see many canoes being held by police on their boats. I asked the Doctor to take me to the side of a police launch and I clambered clumsily aboard (I know I really need to lose some weight!) and went across to the policeman hanging on to a paddle and preventing the canoe from getting away. I asked him to stop preventing the peaceful protest and when he did not I started gently undoing his fingers and talking about the issues. Many of the police understand English. Another policeman hauled me off but I told him I was peaceful and smiled and he soon let me go and I quickly climbed up on the top of the cabin amid shouts to get down. I refused and kept clinging on to the railings until they had let the canoes go and then I agreed to get down and quickly jumped in the water again and swam ashore.

By this time I was shivering violently with the cold and it was getting dark, so went for a hot bath and sleep. I was exhausted. Today I am catching up on emails as the rest of the internationals go back home. I am glad I am free enough to be able to stay. Miki, will soon arrive back here to give me news of her visit to the prison in Jeju City where Prof. Yang Yoon-mo (who was arrested in December last year) is on his 20th day of hunger strike. Everyone is very worried about his health as he is still weakened by his previous 70 day hunger strike only last year. The repression is getting worse and outside observers and activists are needed. If you know of anyone who can come and join in the actions or as human rights observers then please let me know. Any letters that you can write to the US and South Korean Embassies in London would also be appreciated. Love Angie.

27th

Second Report from Gangjeong 26th February 2012

27th February 2012

Second Report from Gangjeong 26th February 2012

Angie Zelter is in Korea supporting the people of Ganjeong Village in their struggle to stop the destruction of Jeju Island where the South Korean military has begun construction of a naval base which will be the port for the US Navy's Aegis Destroyers.

What an amazing day yesterday was . The villagers feel very supported and happy with our contribution. We held a joint press conference at the main gate that was closed for us and when none of the Korean, US, Samsung or others involved in the building of the naval base were willing to come and talk to us we proceeded to the destruction gate and demonstrated there. Then locals and internationals paddled their canoes from the dock for a half hour and got to the sacred rocks of Gureombi. While others were putting up flags I slowly walked along the razor wire until I managed to find a place where I could wriggle through the razor wire and get on the other side before the police could reach me. The plan had been for as many of us as possible to do this but the razor wire was rather intimidating. The villagers say the wire is illegal and the rocks are all theirs.

Slowly making my way back to the others we were all together only separated by the wire.

More and more villagers joined us and they took part in a religious service and then held a meeting. We sang songs - the Korean singing is wonderful but we added our own Swedish, Japanese and other songs. I sang 'They say our lands are out of our hands - our lives and our futures are out of our hands, this land is not yours to put boundaries around, we'll stay and get stronger our voices resound' - which went down very well. The atmosphere was fantastic and the sun came out for the first time. The volcanic rock is quite an amazing ecosystem.

After an hour or so another international Benjie from France managed to join me on the other side of the wire and after another few hours we managed to find a way to get others in. We were all arrested but I refused to give my real name calling myself 'Save Jeju' and refused to accept or sign for a fine and was eventually released without charge - maybe because I reminded the police of their duties under international law not to support preparations for a war of aggression or for basing nuclear weapons at this place! 12 internationals (2 from UK, 4 from USA, 1 from France, 1 from Ireland, 1 from New Zealand and 2 from Sweden) and 10 Koreans were arrested in various ways and 20 taken to 2 police stations. Many of the villagers joined us outside the local police station for more press work and a support vigil. The riot police were sent to contain us as we blockaded the prison entrances. Young male Koreans have to serve for 2 years and are often conscripted into the riot police and they seemed to be practising instigating riots! It was a most interesting experience. There was singing and dancing and random police snatches and some of the village singers were also arrested plus their gongs and drums. But we maintained a highly visible and sometimes noisy protest until everyone was released and we managed to negotiate for all the banners and instruments to be returned.

I must say how absolutely impressed I am by the organisation of this village's resistance. They have the support of the majority of the village and not only did they manage to ferry even non canoe paddlers out to the rocks, but provided hot food and drink (delicious!) at the rocks and outside the police station. It was when the mattresses and blankets appeared and the candles were lit that the most violent riot police charge happened!! Some of them screamed abuse back and swore at the police (there is a different mode of protest here!) and some of us sang and sat down - our different methods merged well. Local supportive lawyers helped out. I am now off to Jeju City for yet another protest - press conference. Please ring or email the US and Korean Embassies and ask them to stop the blasting of the Gureombi Rocks for a military base. The villagers want a peace park not a war base. Bruce from global Network has been writing his blog and there are videos too - see <http://space4peace.blogspot.com/> +

26th [Angie Zelter's First report from Gangjeong 24th February 2012](#)

26th February 2012

Angie Zelter's First report from Gangjeong 24th February 2012

135 full bows of prayers for peace at Destruction Gate

Trident Ploughshares member Angie Zelter is supporting villagers in their fight to stop the building of a US nuclear base on Jeju, the South Korean "Island of Peace". The new base just 300-miles from the Chinese mainland will become a port for U.S. Navy Aegis destroyers fitted with the missile defence systems that are key elements in Pentagon first-strike attack planning. Gangjeong village and endangered soft-coral reefs will be destroyed to build the base. Here is Angie's first report.

The villagers of Gangjeong have welcomed us with open arms. We are around 45 internationals from 12 different countries who have come in response to the village's invitation and plea for support. I have never been in a village so united against a military base. There are flags and beautiful banners everywhere declaring this a village for peace and life. Art work

and murals are along the road and now decorating the obscene wall going up around the construction site which they call the destruction site. These celebrate the natural beauty of the area especially the rare corals, dolphins and crabs in the sea and the fresh water springs and rich agricultural way of life of the area which is famous for its citrus fruit.

Today we took part in the Buddhist/Catholic prayer outside the main destruction gate - 135 full bows of prayers for peace. Later back at the village community centre, which is dominated by pictures of the nonviolent struggle and a display of dolls of the major village characters engaged in the resistance, we heard from the old people of the village - old men and women of 80 plus years who talk of their sorrow at the destruction of their coastline, which was so beautiful and is now being blasted to build a huge naval base for the US to build yet another of their military bases surrounding China. They also talk of the broken community life and divisions in the family caused by the 5 years of resistance, where so many villagers have been imprisoned. In the evening we heard from more villagers and through song and dance of the resistance and the Mayor spoke to us as did a former Governor of Jeju who was apologetic that he could do so little to stop the destruction. Young and old come together most evenings to sing and dance and plan their resistance together.

Yesterday we had been taken around the the Jeju April 3 Peace Park which had been established as a means of compensating Jeju communities for the damage and loss incurred in the April 3rd 1948 Incident. This history is crucial to understanding the villagers present anger and resistance. In brief, Jeju was fortified by the Japanese in the 2nd World War and 60,000 Jeju men were taken by force to Japan to work in their factories. When the Japanese flag was eventually taken down after the war it was immediately replaced by the US flag and the US military Government worked to ensure the division of north from south Korea which eventually led to the Korean War and continuing conflict. Jeju people refused to vote for this separation and became known as the 'red island'. When Jeju people's demonstrations were halted by police killing 6 people and the following general strike was cruelly put down, some young people were arrested and tortured and this led to a small armed uprising which then enabled the US Military Government to order a tough crackdown operation. 4 months later over one ninth of the population had been killed (30,000 people), 84 villages razed to the ground and a scorched earth policy over the whole island which thousands becoming refugees in the mountains and which left the island traumatised. After this they were not allowed to talk about the massacre and it was not until 2005 that the Government of Korea officially reported on it and President Roh Mee-hyun apologised for the Korean Government's part. (The US has never apologised nor has it been officially investigated.) The President then declared the Island of Jeju an 'Island of Peace in order to sublimate the hurts of the Jeju incident with a spirit of reconciliation and make it a symbol of peace and human rights' . The peace museum was then allowed to be built to record the testimonies and detail the historical record.

But it was only 2 years later that a deal was made with the US to build a military base on the island! The villagers are aware that if this base is built that other military bases are likely to follow in the planned future US war against China. They look at the ring of US bases around China and note that China does not have even one military base outside of China. They truly want peace and say you cannot have it by preparing for war. They want the present area now being destroyed for the military to be transformed into a peace park instead. Today we are holding a press conference outside the main gate of the military construction site and then a group of internationals will enter the base and try to reach the sacred Gureombi rocky site which is being prepared for blasting. There is so much more to tell you about but little time to spend at a computer love Angie.

23rd

International Peace Activists Support Locals in Challenge to Korean/US Base

23rd February 2012

International Peace Activists Support Locals in Challenge to

Korean/US Base

Trident Ploughshares Press Release: 23rd February 2012

The anti-nuclear campaign group Trident Ploughshares is among a number of international groups and individuals who are supporting villagers in their fight to stop the building of a US nuclear base on Jeju, the South Korean "Island of Peace".

The anti-nuclear campaign group Trident Ploughshares is among a number of international groups and individuals who are supporting villagers in their fight to stop the building of a US nuclear base on Jeju, the South Korean "Island of Peace".

The Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space holds its 20th annual space organising conference in Gangjeong village on Jeju Island on February 24-26. The Network is made up of 150 peace groups around the world who are working to oppose the development of a new arms race in space. The theme for the conference will be 'Jeju for Island of Peace'.

The South Korean Navy is building a new base just 300-miles from the Chinese mainland which will become a port for U.S. Navy Aegis destroyers fitted with the missile defence systems that are key elements in Pentagon first-strike attack planning. The 400-year old Gangjeong fishing and farming village on Jeju Island is being destroyed to build the base. Endangered soft-coral reefs offshore will also be destroyed when the seabed is dredged to make it possible to bring U.S. warships into the port.

Activists will come to Jeju Island from as far away as India, the UK, Sweden, U.S., Japan, Taiwan, and from throughout South Korea to discuss the controversial missile defence deployments that are now being used to surround Russia and China.

Global Network Coordinator Bruce Gagnon said, 'When I, and other Global Network members, called the South Korean embassy in Washington DC to express support for the Gangjeong villagers fighting to save their way of life we were told, 'Don't call us. Call your own government. They are forcing us to build this base.' The currently planned doubling of U.S. military operations in the Asia-Pacific region has raised serious concerns about the impact on people who live there and for world peace.

Angie Zelter, founder of the non-violent Trident Ploughshares campaign and a nominee for this year's Nobel Peace Prize, said, 'Not only will I speak at the conference but I will be staying on for a month to give whatever support I can to this brave and peaceful struggle. The villagers have been resisting this US base for over 5 years now, trying to keep their village intact and their island an island for peace not war. There have been 197 arrests of peaceful villagers in the last 8 months alone. Peace groups on the Korean mainland that support the protests are now facing rising oppression by the National Intelligence Service of Korea. They need international support. We are all in the same struggle to prevent war and endless militarisation'.

Notes: 1. Angie Zelter is a resident of Knighton in Powis.

2. For more information on the resistance to the base see <http://cafe.daum.net/peacekj/49kU/1368> and also updates on the facebook of No Naval Base on Jeju and website: www.savejejuisland.org

Contacts: Angie Zelter 00-44-78-3535-4652.

Trident Ploughshares www.tridentploughshares.org The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament www.cnduk.org

18th

No Regrets for Trident Ploughshares Graffiti Artists

18th February 2012

No Regrets for Trident Ploughshares Graffiti Artists

Two Trident Ploughshares activists were yesterday found guilty of damaging the walls of a Scottish court in protest at a trial which they regarded as unfair.

In October 2010 Barbara Dowling and Janet Fenton appeared at a session of the JP court within the Sheriff Court building in Dumbarton accused of a breach of the peace during a blockade of Faslane naval base, home to the UK's Trident nuclear weapon submarines. Justice Ross refused to hear their defence and appeared to have made up her mind before all the evidence was put before the court. She would not allow them to put their argument that they had a right to disrupt the illegal work at Faslane under international humanitarian law.

Immediately following the trial they painted on internal walls of the court slogans indicating the failure of the court to uphold international law. Yesterdays's trial was in the Sheriff Court to answer a charge of damaging the walls without reasonable excuse. Barbara and Janet accepted that they had painted the court's walls but maintained their not guilty plea as they felt that the public needed to know that the court did not uphold international law. Finding them guilty Sheriff Anderson deferred sentence until March 19th in order to obtain Social Enquiry Reports.

Barabara Dowling said "The proper reaction to moral wrong is indignation, outrage and action. This was not vandalism, it was political graffiti to let the general public know that their court does not uphold International Law."

Janet Fenton said "I was instrumental in bringing the former President of the International Court of Justice to Scotland to talk to our lawyers and explain how Trident is illegal. Having a court that is not even willing to listen to a properly prepared legal defence based on that information is shocking"

January Trident Ploughshares Founder Angie Zelter Nominated For Nobel Peace Prize

30th January 2012

30th

Trident Ploughshares Founder Angie Zelter Nominated For Nobel Peace Prize

Angie Zelter, founder-member of the anti-nuclear weapon campaign group Trident Ploughshares, has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by Mairead Maguire, who won the award in 1976.

Nominating Angie Mairead said: "Angie Zelter has dedicated her life to building peace and working for world nuclear disarmament. Her life is committed to working to prevent nuclear mass murder, and by her own personal example and through her organizational skills, she has inspired and empowered many people to mobilise to prevent their governments from nuclear genocide, and begin seriously the work of abolishing all nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction.

From peace groups, demonstrations, vigils, street theatre, to nonviolent civil disobedience, imprisonment for non-violent protests, Angie Zelter's activism and life of numerous acts of

nonviolent civil disobedience against nuclear weapons qualify her to be a worthy nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize."

Angie is currently engaged in supporting the villagers of Gangjeong on Jeju Island, South Korea who are resisting the destructive development of a naval base on the island that will become part of the U.S. missile defense system to contain China.

For Trident Ploughshares Jane Tallents said: "We are delighted at the recognition this nomination gives to Angie's work and to the vital importance of non-violent civil resistance in the face of injustice, environmental destruction and the murderous insanity of nuclear weapons. As Angie herself has pointed out, we must see ourselves as global citizens who can never be fully human while others continue to suffer."

Angie Zelter was one of the four women who made history in 1996 by being acquitted by an English jury for prevention of a major crime against humanity. The four women were on trial after causing an estimated 1.5 million pounds worth of damage to a Hawk aircraft bound for oppression of East-Timor resistance in Indonesia. She is a well-travelled campaigner on human rights and environmental issues and has been active in nuclear disarmament since the early eighties.

In 1999 Angie was one of three Trident Ploughshares activists who boarded the Trident research barge Maytime in Loch Goil and damaged equipment there. They were acquitted at the subsequent trial in Greenock on the basis of the illegality of the UK's nuclear weapons under international law. Their action was recognised by the Right Livelihood Award in 2001.

Angie (60) lives in Knighton, Powys.

Trident Ploughshares is a part of the international nuclear disarmament movement. Trident Ploughshares activists have pledged to disarm the UK Trident nuclear weapons system in a non-violent, open, peaceful, safe and fully accountable manner.

30th

[Trident Ploughshares Member Refuses to Comply with Court Punishment](#)

30th January 2012

Trident Ploughshares Member Refuses to Comply with Court Punishment

On 25 January 2012 Barbara Dowling today told Dumbarton District Court that she would not pay a fine or comply with a Supervised Attendance Order as she did not accept that she was guilty of any crime.

Barbara was called to a means court after failing to pay a £500 fine imposed in October 2010 for blockading the Faslane Trident Submarine Base. She, along with five other Trident Ploughshares activists, had blockaded the gates of Faslane in April that year to exercise their civic responsibility under International Law, to do what they could to stop the work of preparing and maintaining weapons of mass destruction.

At the trial the Justice refused to hear their defence and had clearly made up her mind before all the evidence was put before the court. Barbara said " I don't accept the verdict, the trial was unfair and the Justice did not listen to our argument that we had a right to disrupt the illegal work at Faslane under International Humanitarian Law."

Today the Justice accepted that she couldn't pay £500 and imposed 90 hours of Supervised Attendance although Barbara said that she would not comply with it and it would be a waste of Social Work Department resources to try. She was told that if she does not co-operate she will

be brought back to court. Refusal to comply with a Supervised Order could lead to a jail sentence.