



W.A.M.M. NEWSLETTER

Women Against Military Madness

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Women Against Military Madness



Photo: Ellen Davidson. Bannering in front of the General Post Office, Dublin, November 16, 2018

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Over 800 U.S./NATO Military Bases: the Resistance Builds

a report on the First International Conference Against U.S./NATO Foreign Military Bases by Sue Ann Martinson, Sarah Martin, and Carol Walker



On January 20, Sarah Martin, Carol Walker, and Sue Ann Martinson from Women Against Military Madness (WAMM) delivered a report back to Minneapolis on the First International Conference Against U.S./NATO Foreign Military Bases that they attended this past November in Ireland. Approximately 300 participants from 35 countries participated in the conference with speakers representing antiwar movements from throughout the world. This is the first step in building a global network to oppose U.S./NATO bases.

Sue Ann Martinson: Resistance Begins in Ireland

The bases are seen as a symptom of U.S. domination, colonialism, and militarism. [That's why the word "U.S." is linked by a slash mark to "NATO," the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which is the ever-expanding arm of the U.S. empire.]

According to Sue Ann, the conference stressed that in going forward, "there is the need for unity in what is global strife and an international struggle; the need for networking, both at the conference and beyond; and education

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The statements and opinions reflected in this newsletter are the views of the author and not necessarily official positions of WAMM. We encourage a diversity of opinion to represent the range of perspectives that coexist under the banner of WAMM's mission statement.

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Women Against Military Madness is a nonviolent, feminist organization, founded in 1982, that works in solidarity with others to create a system of social equality, self-determination and justice through education, action and the empowerment of women. WAMM's purpose is to dismantle systems of militarism, economic exploitation and global oppression.

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Over 800 U.S./NATO Military bases *continued from page 1*



about U.S. militarism?" The myths around NATO need to be debunked: that it exists to protect us and is necessary for our defense and the defense of small countries.

The conference opened at 3:00 p.m. on November 16th with a march from the conference site, Liberty Hall, to the General Post Office (GPO) in the heart of Dublin. The march route was symbolic, as the Easter 1916 Rising had begun with a march from Liberty Hall to the GPO. Liberty Hall was a trade union center in 1916 and was the planning headquarters for the rebellion that eventually led to the creation of an Irish Republic independent of British rule.

At the GPO, a traditional place of protest in Ireland, the contemporary resisters held a demonstration and bannering, asserting the need for getting rid of U.S./NATO military bases. The leaders of the 1916 Rising had taken over the GPO, making it the working headquarters of their rebellion: It



Photo: Ellen Davidson. Shannon Airport has been used as a transit point for U.S. soldiers, weapons and extraordinary renditions.

was here that they read the famous proclamation declaring independence from Great Britain.

The Ireland of today is supposedly a neutral country, but it, too, is shamefully caught in the U.S./NATO web. Shannon Airport, in the west of Ireland, was used for extraordinary renditions after 9/11 and as a transit point for soldiers and weapons in the 2003 U.S./UK war on Iraq. But to this day, U.S. soldiers pass through the airport (6,000 in 2017). Though the military is generally very secretive about its movements, more is known thanks to revelations from Wikileaks. The Irish people continue to resist this use of their airport. There are also protests at Ramstein Air Base in Germany, which launches killer drone flights. Typical of arrangements with other countries, bases belong to the host country but are used by the U.S. military.

You can see Sue Ann's personal reflections on Dublin and the conference, plus articles by other writers about the conference on her blog, Rise Up Times (riseuptimes.org).

Sarah Martin: The Extent of U.S./NATO Bases

[See map, page 4] The U.S. and NATO have as many as 800 to 1,000 military bases and tens of thousands of troops in 70 foreign countries, and maintain the highest number of military bases outside their territory (95 percent of all foreign military bases in the world). In comparison, Russia has fewer than 20 bases, and China maintains one base in Africa, in Djibouti.

Seventy-two years after World War II and 64 years after the Korean truce there are still scores of U.S. bases in Germany, Japan, and South Korea. Okinawa is forced to host U.S. bases on 70 percent of its land. Despite fierce resistance and calls for withdrawal by virtually the entire population and local



What's the North Atlantic Treaty Organization doing in the Pacific Ocean?

leaders, the bases not only aren't closed but continue to expand and be updated.

Presently, there are U.S. military bases in every Persian Gulf country except Iran.

In addition to land bases, the U.S. alone has 19 naval air carriers (and 15 more planned), each a part of a carrier strike group, composed of roughly 7,500 personnel and a carrier air wing of 65 to 70 aircraft. Each carrier strike group can be considered a floating military base.

These military bases are the military expression of imperialist intrusion in the lives of sovereign countries on behalf of the dominant financial, political, and military interests of the ruling elite. Whether a base is invited into a country by domestic interests or not, no country, no people, no government can claim to be able to make decisions in the interest of its people – the foreign troops on its soil represent interests that are antagonistic to the local people.

NATO began in 1949 with eight countries on the pretext of protecting Europe from the Soviet Union after the Second World War. But if this pretext were sound, NATO would have disbanded in

1991 after the fall of the Soviet Union and the breakup of the Warsaw Pact (the defense treaty between the Soviet Union and seven Soviet satellite states of Central and Eastern Europe). Instead, at a time when there was the ability to eliminate poverty and hunger everywhere, the U.S. spent money not for human needs but for military buildup, including expanding NATO.

Western leaders, among them U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, assured Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in 1990 and 1991 around the time of the fall of the Berlin Wall that NATO would not move east toward Russia. But this pledge was broken, and NATO is now in most of the countries of the former Eastern Bloc, right on the border of Russia. How was this pulled off? A case can be made that NATO's waging of a "humanitarian" war on Yugoslavia provided the organization with a rationale for continuing.

The reality is that as the armed wing of the U.S. and the European Union, NATO serves to safeguard control of energy resources and pipelines, spheres of influence, and markets for the sake of Western

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WAMM Committees

Issues Committees:

- Book Club
- End War Committee
- Ground All Drones Committee
- Middle East
- St. Joan of Arc/
WAMM Peacemakers
- Second Monday Movies
- Tackling Torture at the Top (T3)

Standing Committees:

- Coordinating
- Finance
- Fundraising
- Membership/Outreach
- Newsletter
- Personnel
- Program/New Issues
- Silent Auction

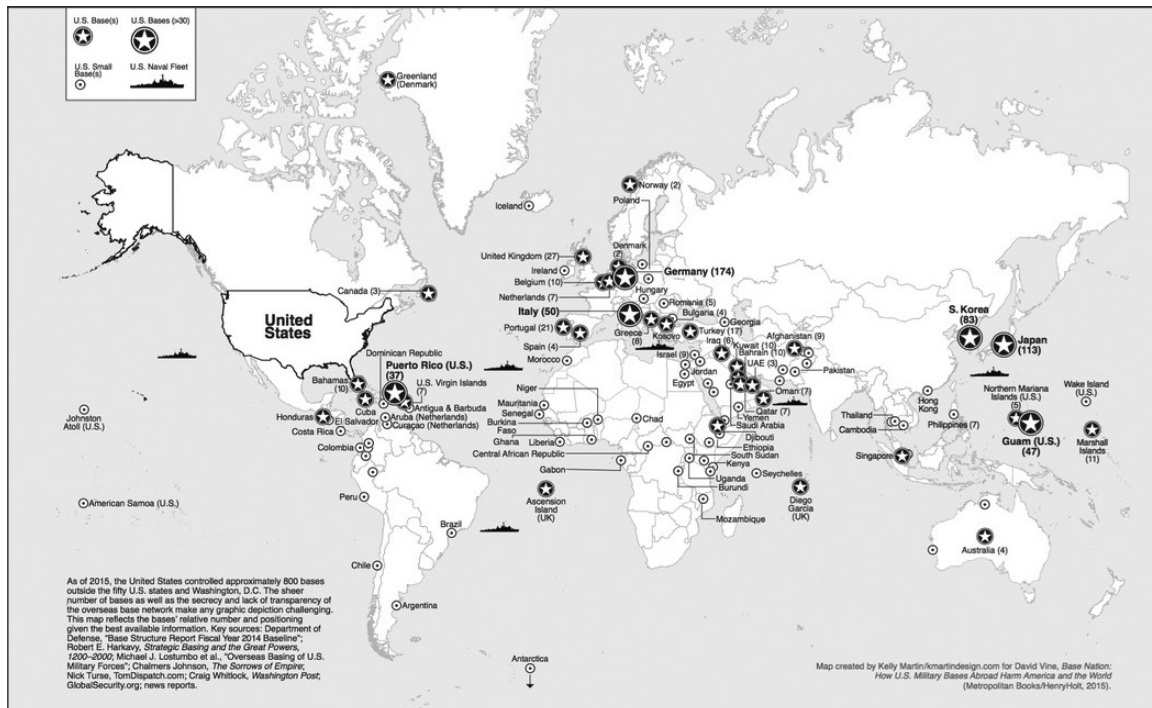
WAMM Board:

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Special Announcement WAMM March Board Meeting

WAMM members are invited to the WAMM March Board Meeting on Tuesday, March 19, at 5:45 pm in the main room of 4200 Cedar Avenue South in Minneapolis. We will be voting to change our bylaws to allow us to hold our 2019 Annual Meeting on April 6 rather than within the first quarter of the year in order to accommodate the schedule of our speaker, Winona LaDuke.

U.S./NATO Military Bases Outside the U.S. *(continued from page 3)*



Map: From Base Nation: How U.S. Military Bases Abroad Harm America and the World, by David Vine (Skyhorse Publishing/Metropolitan Books, 2017)

Bases article continues on page 8

PM: The Nerve of Some (Antinuclear) People! *by Polly Mann*



A resolution to *Pull Back from the Brink and Prevent Nuclear War* (2019) has been introduced in the Minnesota State Legislature. Here's how it all began: I had learned that Northampton, Massachusetts, had passed a resolution calling for the U.S. to prevent nuclear war. I found it marvelous that this town with a population of less than 30,000 had the nerve to believe they could pressure the most powerful government in the world to stop the most powerful weapons in the world. I thought to myself: If a town could do that, why couldn't other local governments?

I knew that my Minnesota state senator, Scott Dibble, was as interested in a peaceful world as I am, so I decided to write to him about introducing such a resolution in the state senate. As soon as the new state legislature went into session in January, he did just that. Senators John Marty and Sandy Pappas have joined him

as co-sponsors of S.F. 84.

Now since this transpired, I have heard that resolutions are being introduced in other states and local governments. Could we be seeing the return of a major ban the bomb movement – now needed more than ever – within the U.S.? There is also a second resolution in the Minnesota Senate (S.F. 344), with a companion in the house (H.F. 460): “A resolution urging adoption of new nuclear weapons policies.” The Senate resolutions are similar and contain excellent language, including the need to prevent a first strike by the U.S.

I believe that we can abolish nuclear weapons. Like the people of Northampton, we just need to have faith in ourselves – or, as some might say – a lot of nerve. And I think we're seeing that we just may have that. ☺

Polly Mann, co-founder of WAMM, contributes to this newsletter.

ACTION: As of February, the two antinuclear resolutions in the Minnesota Senate are S.F. 84 sponsored by Senators Dibble, Marty, Pappas, and Rest. and S.F. 344 sponsored by Torres Ray, Pappas, and Marty. Both were referred to the State Government Finance and Policy and Elections Committee chaired by Senator Kiffmeyer.

The House resolution H.F. 460, sponsored by Rep. Moran, was referred to Government Operations Committee. You can find texts (under Bill Search & Status), committee members, and your MN representatives at leg.state.mn.us.

Ask Sen. Kiffmeyer to move both S.F. 84 and S.F. 344 out of committee so that they can be heard on the floor of the Senate: sen.mary.kiffmeyer@senate.mn or phone: 651-296-5655 **Ask Rep. Mike Freiberg to move H.F. 460 out of committee** so that it can be heard on the floor of the House: rep.mike.freiberg@house.mn or phone 651-296-4176

No War on Venezuela

No Coup, No Sanctions, No New U.S. War

We have seen the disastrous consequences of recent U.S. interventions in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, and, through its alliance with Saudi Arabia, in Yemen. U.S. intervention in Venezuela can only bring further hardship and suffering, [such] as followed U.S. support for the 2009 coup in Honduras that overthrew the elected government there and contributed to the stream of asylum-seekers now on our southern border seeking relief from that disaster.

It reveals the deep cynicism of U.S. policy makers that they denounce what they call a dictatorial regime in Venezuela while providing unlimited support to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its murderous absolute dictatorship of the royal family. The U.S. also supports a host of other autocrats, authoritarians,

absolute monarchs, and dictators in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, to name a few. There is no case in which U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of other countries has led to greater democracy and better conditions of life for the people.

In the case of Venezuela, the economic distress has been precipitated largely by the decline in world oil prices. Oil is the most important revenue source for the Venezuelan government. But Venezuela's economic difficulties have been greatly compounded by economic sanctions imposed on Venezuela by the United States, beginning in March 2015 under Barack Obama. These have been explicitly designed to choke off Venezuela's access to international markets and resources for the

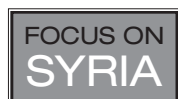
purpose of destabilizing the Maduro government and, before that, the government of Hugo Chavez.

The economic chaos the U.S. now points to in Venezuela as a justification for intervention is in large part a consequence of U.S. policy, which is designed to provoke popular unrest, sow divisions, and precipitate an uprising against the government.

This interference in Venezuela's internal affairs serves the interests of wealthy elites and multinational corporations, not the interests of the Venezuelan or American people. It is always the people who end up paying for these interventions in suffering, blood, and treasure. ☺

*U.S. Labor Against the War
statement against U.S. intervention
in Venezuela.*

Minnesota Peace Action Coalition Statement on Trump's Syria Troop Withdrawal Plans



The President Trump's announcement in December that he would withdraw U.S. troops from Syria and Afghanistan was met with confusion and criticism from both parties in Washington. A month later, however, it's clear the question is not *how* the troops will be brought home, but whether they will be brought home at all.

Trump has hinted that troops in Syria will merely be moved to Iraq and continue to be sent on illegal excursions into Syria – or relocated to the Mexican border to fire weapons into Mexico at civilian asylum seekers. Airstrikes in Syria

have actually intensified since Trump's claim that troops would be withdrawn. In Afghanistan, revelations of new CIA-trained death squads show that Trump has no intention of ending America's war in that country, either.

And in recent days, under pressure from war hawks in both parties, Trump administration officials have declared that any withdrawal of troops from Syria will be put on hold all but indefinitely.

Trump's initial announcement of a decision to bring the troops home was a response to the fact that vast numbers of people in the U.S. oppose

the endless wars and militarism. His backtracking reveals that it was never more than an empty political stunt.

The only way wars end is when people mobilize to demand the troops be brought home. Instead of Trump's fake withdrawal plans, the Minnesota Peace Action Coalition supports building an independent antiwar movement that demands a real end to the wars and U.S. militarism.

Troops Home Now – Out of Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq, and Off the Border! ☺

*Women Against Military Madness
belongs to the MPAC coalition*

Whose Rights? Minnesota Break the Bonds/ACTION



By banning the right to boycott, state law elevates Israel over the constitutional right of free speech for its own Minnesota citizens.

With the ban on boycotting, state legislators have elevated Israel over their own U.S. constituents' constitutional right of free speech.

Minnesota Break the Bonds

In 2017, the legislature passed, and former Governor Dayton signed into law a bill that unconstitutionally restricts our First Amendment right to free speech. The law conditions Minnesota State contracts based on the position that they take on economic boycotts against Israel. Contractors who want to do business

with the State (if the contract is for more than \$50,000) must certify in writing that they do not “discriminate” against the State of Israel. Minnesota is one of 26 states that have passed similar legislation.

Federal courts in Arizona and Kansas have ruled against such laws in those states. Lawsuits have been brought against other states also. The Arizona ruling makes it very clear that restricting a person’s right to boycott is restricting their freedom of speech and assembly. ☺

ACTION: Call your Minnesota state legislators (“Who represents me?” See: leg.state.mn.us). **Ask them to sponsor or cosponsor a bill to rescind the 2017 anti-BDS laws (Statutes 3.226 and 16C.053).**

Want to do more? MN Break the Bonds Campaign can help with a visit to your legislator by providing materials, talking points, and even people to accompany you. Send an email to mn@breakthebonds.org. Let us know your name, contact information, and the district that you live in.

The Border There and the Border Here



Screenshot: DHS Sec. Nielsen, tweet, June 2018

U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen appears not only to have enthusiastically been embracing exchanges with Israel about militarized border security, but to have been absorbing lessons during a visit last June.

Other tweets: “Our trip to #Israel has been incredible. From listening to and learning from intl stakeholders at the #IHSF18 [the International Homeland Security Forum held in Jerusalem], to meeting with both @netanyahu & giladedanl on how they protect Israel from persistent threats, this visit has been a great success. Thank you all for your partnership!”

“I had the distinct privilege to discuss a wide range of counterterrorism issues with the Prime Minister of #Israel, @netanyahu. Thank you for your continued efforts to keep our relationship strong.”

Continuing a hard line stance, Nielsen has since stated that, to protect the U.S. southern border, “everything is on the table.” ☺



Rashida Tlaib at her swearing-in ceremony.



Ilhan Omar is sworn in as a congresswoman from Minnesota

Daylight Breaks Through/ACTION

Sunlight is the best remedy when it comes to injustice. And we are beginning to see some rays of sun pierce through, “There can be no daylight between the U.S. and Israel,” the favorite meme of lobbyists and American politicians who uncritically favor Israel at the expense of the rights and even the survival of Palestinians. But “silence is no longer an option,” as Michelle Alexander wrote in her opinion piece, “Time to Break the Silence,” published January 19 in *The New York Times*.

Newly elected Congresswoman Ilhan Omar of Minnesota was appointed to the Foreign Affairs Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, who wore a traditional Palestinian dress for her swearing-in ceremony, plans to lead a delegation to Palestine. Both Ilhan and Rashida support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement (BDS), and continue to state that they

oppose all forms of hate, dehumanization, and oppression against any racial or religious group anywhere. ☮

ACTION: Encourage your U.S. congressional representative to join the delegation that U.S. Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib is organizing to go to Palestine.

In Minneapolis (District 5), contact Congresswoman Ilhan Omar: Washington, D.C., phone: (202) 225-4755; Minneapolis phone: (612) 333-1272 omar.house.gov/contact

In St. Paul (District 4), contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum. Also please thank her for introducing legislation: *Promoting Human Rights by Ending Israeli Military Detention of Palestinian Children Act* (H.R. 4391) which prevents the use of U.S. tax dollars for the Israeli military’s ongoing detention and mistreatment of Palestinian children. Washington D.C., phone: (202) 225-6631; St. Paul phone: (651) 224-9191; email: mccollum.house.gov/contact/email

Some Conditions in Palestine 2019



Gaza has been under siege for more than 11 years.

- 95 percent of water is undrinkable
- 4 hours of electricity per day
- 45 percent kids suffer acute anemia
- 50 percent kids express no will to live
- 2 million denied freedom of movement

Ramallah, West Bank

Rather than address the root causes of violence – occupation and military rule – the Israeli government has once again imposed collective punishment on the people of Ramallah and in villages and refugee camps throughout the West Bank. The entrance of the Israeli Army into the region, which included locking down entire communities, destroying homes, and terrorizing families, is a violation of the rights of every single person who lives there. – “Jewish Voice for Peace Condemns the Invasion of Ramallah by the Israel Defense Force,” December 17, 2018, jewishvoiceforpeace.org, Conditions continued into 2019.

Over 800 U.S./NATO Military bases *continued from page 4*



capital and transnational corporations.

The establishment of U.S. and NATO military bases would not be possible without the cooperation of host countries' governments (though the citizens and local governments may be opposed). Today there are 29 member countries in NATO. [In addition to members, NATO claims a network of regional partners: the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, the Mediterranean Dialogue, and the Istanbul Cooperative Initiative in the Gulf region. NATO also claims bilateral relations with individual countries which it calls "global partners": Afghanistan, Australia, Colombia, Iraq, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, New Zealand, and Pakistan. See NATO's website, "NATO Partners."]

Colombia can't remotely be considered anywhere near the North Atlantic and Europe, but it recently became NATO's partner in South America, despite the fact that the legality of this is still in Colombian courts. Colombia hosts nine U.S. bases, many pointed toward Venezuela.

Who knew that Italy had 10 percent of these bases – some secret, but many active in war? The extent, size, and importance of the U.S./NATO bases in Italy surprised many. U.S./NATO wars, including the wars against Yugoslavia, Libya, Afghanistan, and countries in the Middle East, have been waged from Italian bases. Two bases hold over 60 nuclear weapons in defiance of Italian law. One base holds the biggest arsenal outside the U.S. Another commands U.S. naval forces for Africa



Photo: Daily Herald. Okinawans protest during the Dublin conference. Resistance is fierce as U.S. bases consume 70 percent of their island and continue to expand.

and Europe. Still another is a huge drone base and yet another is one of five bases in the advanced system of cyber global command and control.

Toward her conclusion, Sarah Martin said, "The absolute high point in a conference filled with dynamic, experienced, and well informed speakers was the keynote speaker, Dr. Aleida Guevara, member of the Cuban National Assembly and Che's daughter. She reminded us that Guantánamo is the oldest U.S. base on foreign soil. 150 years ago the U.S. stole the land from Cuba to build it. Cuba is the one country in the world where both the people and the government oppose the base and its use for detention, rendition, and torture. The Cuban government has cut off all support to it, including electricity and water?"

As was said throughout the report, there is resistance to foreign bases among people everywhere. An inspiring victory was achieved in Czechoslovakia in 2009, when a huge movement was able to stop the building of a base.

Carol Walker: Expansion, Environmental and Health Impacts

Carol Walker supplemented her report

on the Dublin conference with an important point made in *Base Nation: How U.S. Military Bases Abroad Harm America and the World*, by David Vine (Skyhorse Publishing/Metropolitan Books, 2017), a book that she recommends reading for a fuller understanding of U.S. bases. Going back in history, Guantánamo Bay is generally identified as the first U.S. military base abroad, but 90 military bases – referred to as "forts" – were used in Western expansion for the conquest of indigenous people and their land. Vine wrote that "these bases were built on land that was very much *abroad* at the time." In other words, these forts were *foreign* military bases.

At the end of the 19th century, but mostly in the 20th century, U.S. imperialism went global. Between 1946 and 1958, the U.S. Navy conducted 68 atomic and hydrogen bomb tests in the Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands. On March 1, 1954, the first U.S. hydrogen bomb test spread a cloud of radiation over 7,500 square miles.

"I wonder how we would have reacted if a foreign country chose to practice their bombing on Lake Superior," Carol Walker said.

At the Dublin conference, statistics

were given on the expansion of U.S. bases in Africa: Under G.W. Bush there were only three military bases in Africa; that number jumped to 84 under Obama. [Among them are Special Forces, joint bases with African countries, and “lily pads” – temporary bases.]

A plenary on Africa discussed the effect on the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Congo is one of the most mineral-rich countries in the world. If given a chance, it could produce electricity and food for all of Africa. Instead, its people are among the poorest. Googling “coltan mining Congo” brings up articles and videos showing slave labor and child labor. In 2016, it was estimated that 40,000 boys and girls – some very young – were working in the mines. The metallic ore coltan (columbite-tantalite) is especially valued, as it is used in cell phones and in almost every electronic device. Sixty-five percent of coltan comes from Congo.

It is not much of a leap from this deplorable situation to realize that the staggering growth in military

bases enforces an exploitative economic system for the benefit of extraction industries owned by multinational corporations. Health issues and environmental destruction go hand in hand.

We have all heard that the military is the biggest polluter, but it is less well-known that aside from all the destructive bombings, hazardous waste is dumped at sea, including materials associated with nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. According to *Base Nation*, an army spokesperson admitted that in waters off 11 states around the country, the Army “secretly dumped 64 million pounds of nerve and mustard gas agent in the sea, along with 400,000 chemical-filled bombs, landmines, and rockets, and more than 500 tons of radioactive waste.”

Pat Elder, an American activist, presented a talk about the chemical contaminates perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), which are active ingredients in the foam routinely used to train soldiers to extinguish aircraft fires at U.S. military bases. These toxic chemicals are allowed to leach into surrounding soil and poison groundwater.

The use of PFOS and PFOA results in one of the greatest water contamination epidemics in human history. The water in thousands of wells in and around U.S. military installations across the globe has been tested and shown to contain harmful levels. The health effects of exposure to these chemicals include tumors, organ damage, severe pregnancy complications, and miscarriages. The chemicals contaminate human breast milk and sicken babies. By 2001, the military fully understood the enormity of

the problem. They knew these firefighting foams used at bases worldwide were poisoning streams and well water, but, concerned about the publicity and expense, they decided to keep quiet.

It’s not possible to cover all of the damaging effects of military bases on the environment in a conference, but these are just a few examples – and another reason to actively oppose military bases ☺.

ACTION: In Washington, D.C.:

A Call to National Mobilization to Oppose NATO, War, and Racism. March 30, 2019. A broad coalition of antiwar groups in the U.S. and around the world is organizing a national and international mobilization beginning with a march in Washington, D.C., where NATO will be celebrating its 70th anniversary. More info: no2nato2019.org

In the Twin Cities: No to NATO: March and rally. March 30, 1:00 p.m., Hennepin and Lagoon, Minneapolis.

Further Resources:

Global Campaign Against U.S./NATO Military Bases: video of the entire conference, articles, photos. nousbases.org

Base Nation: How U.S. Military Bases Abroad Harm America and the World, a book by David Vine (Skyhorse Publishing/Metropolitan Books, 2017)



Sign on a local resident’s fence in Niscemi, Sicily. Alarmed about effects of high-frequency electromagnetic waves on human health and ecosystems, as well as complicity in warfighting, thousands attempted to block the installation of a U.S./NATO Naval Radio Transmitter system. Photo: Alessio Mamo—Redux



(left to right): Carol Walker, Sue Ann Martinson, Sarah Martin

Good News!

Humanity for Ex-Prisoners and Prisoners

Free to Vote in Florida The Restoration for Felons Initiative was approved in a key voting state, Florida, giving more than one million former felons the right to vote. Counties began registering former felons this January. – *Ballotopedia, Miami Herald*

Solidarity to End Solitary The National Religious Campaign to End Torture is calling for nationwide actions on the 23rd of every month in solidarity with the 80,000 adults and youth held in solitary confinement in U.S. prisons, jails and detention centers for 23 hours a day. – National Religious Campaign to End Torture nrcat.org

Catholics Act for Climate Change

Catholic agencies from about 120 countries, under the auspices of the

UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, launched an urgent call. The Global Catholic Climate Movement is taking action with a 2019 calendar of campaigns on behalf of “the most vulnerable” and “in light of the recent International Panel on Climate Change report on reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent in the next 12 years to keep global warming to 1.5 degrees.” – Global Catholic Climate Movement, Plans for 2019

Prospects for Peace in Korea A Woman’s Place Is at the Table

Women Cross the DMZ, the Women’s Nobel Peace Initiative, and the Northeast Asia Roundtable on Women, Peace and Security met in Beijing to discuss having a place at the table during international peace negotiations for the Korean Peninsula. The women activists also met in Seoul with South Korean women

members of parliament, and plan to meet with U.S. women members of Congress in Washington, D.C., in March 2019. – womencrossdmz.org

Denuclearization North Korea’s leader, Kim Jong-un vowed to meet the South’s president, Moon Jae-in, frequently this year to discuss denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Donald Trump, in his State of the Union address, made a denuclearization deal with Pyongyang one of his top foreign policy priorities – *The Guardian, Washington Post*

Conscientious Objection The South Korean Supreme Court ruled in November that men can now reject military service on the basis of morality or religion and will not be sentenced to 18 months in prison. – *The Strait Times, Financial Times, AP* ☺

Keep the light of peace burning!
Give the gift of a WAMM membership to someone, join, or renew.



WAMM Membership

- \$15–39 Low Income/Student membership
- \$40–59 Individual membership
- \$60–199 Household membership
- \$200+ Major Donor
- This is a new membership.
- Check enclosed

Sustaining Membership

(Ongoing contributions throughout the year)
\$_____ Monthly \$_____ Quarterly
(WAMM will send a coupon book, if by check)

- This is a membership renewal
- This is a gift membership
- Please charge my credit card
- Total amount enclosed \$_____

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Add me to the WAMM email list

Contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.
Make checks payable to WAMM, 4200 Cedar Avenue South, Suite 3, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407

WAMM Calendar

Please note that WAMM's provision of information on other groups' events is not meant to convey or endorse any action contrary to public policy that would be inconsistent with exempt purposes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), i.e., charitable purposes.

Ongoing Peace/ Justice Vigils *Vigil to End War*

Every Wednesday, From 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Lake Street/Marshall Avenue Bridge. Signs available on St. Paul side. Brief circle up for announcements after the vigil on St. Paul side.

FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364.

Vigil to End the Occupation of Palestine

Every Friday, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. corner of Summit Avenue and Snelling Avenue, St. Paul.

FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364.

Peace Vigil

Every Tuesday, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on the east side of the Franklin Avenue Bridge, Minneapolis. Sponsored by: Prospect Hill Neighbors for Peace.

FFI: Call 612-379-7398.

Grandmothers for Peace Vigil

Every Wednesday, 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. 50th Street and Halifax (1 block west of France), Edina. FFI: Call Marian Wright 612-927-7607.

Immigrant Solidarity Vigils

Every Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.

Stand up for justice, say NO to family separation, deportation. Gather weekly with signs (bring your own or use one provided) at ICE entrance closest to Fort Snelling light rail station.

Vigil on Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis by the sign at the driveway entrance to ICE. Rain or shine. (If using GPS—6000 Minnehaha Ave, Minneapolis). FFI: Call Pepper 612-701-6963 or Mary Lou 612-280-0354

Second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 a.m.

Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM) gathers in solidarity with immigrants and refugees to achieve justice and stand up to systems of oppression. Vigil outside the Bishop Whipple Building, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling. St. Paul. FFI: Facebook: Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM).

WAMM Committee Meetings

Board Meeting

Third Tuesday of every month, 6:00 p.m. 4200 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis.

FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364.

Book Club

Episcopal Senior Living Complex, Welcome Center, 1860 University Avenue West, St. Paul. Call WAMM for meeting time and date.

FFI: Call 612-827-5364.

End War

First Monday of every month, 6:00 p.m. 4200 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis.

FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364.

Ground All Drones

Times/dates pending. FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364.

Middle East

Second Monday of every month, 10:00 a.m. at WAMM, 4200 Cedar Avenue South, Suite 3, Minneapolis.

FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364.

St. Joan of Arc/WAMM Peacemakers

Fourth Tuesday of every month, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. St. Joan of Arc Church, Parish

Center, 4537 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis. FFI: Call Barbara 612-722-4444.

Tackling Torture at the Top (T3)

Second Wednesday of every month, 10:00 a.m. 4200 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis.

FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364.

Ongoing Events

People of Faith

Peacemakers Breakfast

Second and fourth Wednesdays of every month, 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. African Development Center, Riverside and 20th Avenues South, Minneapolis. Peace with justice resource, support group. FFI: Visit justviewpoint.org or call 612-333-4772.

Grandmothers for Peace

First Wednesday of every month, 12:45 p.m. Edina Public Library, 5280 Grandview Square, Edina. Justice issue programs for understanding our role in changing systems.

FFI: Call 952-929-1566.

Pax Salons

Call for details and location. Small donations accepted. FFI: Call 651-227-3228.

Middle East Peace Now

Usually second or third Saturday. Refreshments 9:30 a.m. Program 10:00 a.m. Location varies. FFI: Visit mepn.org.

WAMM Second Monday Movies

Second Monday of every month, 7:00 p.m. 4200 Cedar Avenue South (enter on 42nd St.), Minneapolis. Projected on big screen. Free admission, popcorn. All welcome. Discussion follows film. FFI: Call 612-827-5364 or email wamm@mtn.org.

Pray the Devil Back to Hell

March 11. In honor of Int'l Women's Day, the remarkable story of Liberian women, both

Christian and Muslim, who came together to end a bloody civil war and bring peace to their shattered country.

Enemies of the Peace

April 8. Documentary about the Middle East, proliferation of arms sales, more U.S. military bases, widening conflict. Examines instigators, aggressors, funders and their motives. Insights and solutions.

Miss a movie? DVD collection is available for check-out in the WAMM office.

Special Events

Hands off Venezuela

No Coup, No Sanctions, No New U.S. War. Saturday, February 23, 1:00 p.m. Gather at Hennepin and Lagoon Aves, Minneapolis; 1:30 p.m. Anti-war visibility at nearby busy corners; 2:00 p.m. Closing rally. Initiated by Minnesota Peace Action Coalition. FFI: Call 612-827-5364 or 612-275-2720

National Mobilization to Oppose NATO, War and Racism

Saturday, March 30, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., additional events through April 4, when this year's NATO Summit begins, Washington, D.C. FFI: no2nato2019.org

WAMM Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 6, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., See back page for more info.

20th Annual Bridge Vigil

Wednesday, April 24, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Lake Street/Marshall Avenue Bridge. Join us for a program that will include a video, toasts, music, memories and much more. Renew old friendships and meet new vigil goers! Sponsored by End War Committee of Women Against Military Madness and Twin Cities Peace Campaign. FFI: Call WAMM 612-827-5364



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WomenAgainstMilitaryMadness.org
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All Members Are Invited To:

WAMM's Annual Meeting

**Speaker: Winona LaDuke,
Honor the Earth**

Saturday, April 6, 2019

Spirit of St. Stephens' Community
2201 First Avenue South in Minneapolis

10:00 a.m. Brunch

10:30 a.m. Program Begins.

Closing with "WAMM's Annual Song," 2018 Financial Report
and Budget and the election of WAMM's Board of Directors.

Sponsored by Women Against Military Madness

WAMM is looking for new board members.

Board members meet 10 times a year on the third Tuesday evening of the month. Board members assume responsibility for overseeing a program, activity, or committee of WAMM. Board members are elected at the Annual Meeting (AM) and serve a two-year term beginning at election. Applicants for the board are asked to create a short, one-paragraph biography that will be printed in the AM program.

Contact the WAMM office at 612-827-4364 or
wamm@mtn.org for information.