



DESERT CRY! NO NEW MILITARISM HERE

Desert Voices • ISSN 1539-9869 • Volume 22, Number 2 • May 2009

Although Nevada Desert Experience was in the forefront of the successful campaign to stop full-scale nuclear weapon explosions in the Nevada desert almost 20 years ago, nuclearism and militarism continue in the Great Basin Desert. New weapon systems are being developed and used at Creech Air Force Base, situated between the Nevada Test Site and Las Vegas. Pilots at Creech control "unmanned" airplanes to drop bombs on the people of Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan. The controllers use videogame-style technology to reign destruction from the sky. Only 10% destroy "high value" targets, while hundreds of civilian non-combatant casualties outrage villagers and the world.

NDE continues to focus on **abolishing nuclear weapons even while organizing vigils at Creech.** Creech AFB is a site of ACUTE militarism for projecting U.S. violence globally. The NTS represents our CHRONIC militarism and our country's longstanding willingness to threaten and attack civilians. We need to stop both, and to foster healing from this physical and spiritual damage in beautiful, sacred places. Let peace flow back into the desert! As we go to press, Yucca Mountain appears saved from becoming a nuclear waste repository! Judy Treichel of the Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force is hopeful, and we are too. For links and more info about these issues, visit our website.

Take action for COMMUNICATION, not domination. Work with NDE.

9th Annual Newe Sogobia Maya'a Mia Walk on the Sacred Land



This prayerful event from May 4 to May 9 was led by NDE Council member Johnnie Bobb (in photo, lead walker). They ended their journey at the peace camp across the highway from the Nevada Test Site. Later, after processing to the test site's main gate, three Western Shoshone walkers were arrested for crossing the white line. They were challenging the government's ability to keep them from their ancestral lands, Newe Sogobia, which include the NTS. International and U.S. law support the Shoshone claim, but they were given citations anyway.

We need your help!

Desert Cry! was created as an urgent bulletin to let you know we are financially strapped. We will survive, but only with your help can we build the momentum to ground drone warfare at Creech AFB and end nuclear weapon development at the Nevada Test Site. Look for a full issue of *Desert Voices* this Summer.

Donate online from our website NevadaDesertExperience.org, or send a check payable to N.D.E. to **1420 West Bartlett Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89106.**

NDE is also looking for an intern or volunteer to help organize in Las Vegas. Room and small stipend included.

Upcoming NDE Events & Actions

Call or e-mail for details & check the website
702.646.4814 info@NevadaDesertExperience.org
<http://NevadaDesertExperience.org>

May 18 6:30 to 8:00 am	Vigil at Creech AFB, Indian Springs (Carpool from NDE office at 5:30 am)
June 8 6:30 to 8:00 am	Vigil at Creech AFB, Indian Springs (Carpool from NDE office at 5:30 am)
June 9 Contact NDE for times and places	Ground the Drones-14 Arraignment (Court Appearance is in Las Vegas; Press Conference & vigil will follow)
July 13 6:30 to 8:00 am	Vigil at Creech AFB, Indian Springs (Carpool from NDE office at 5:30 am)
August 6 to 9 Contact NDE for places and times	Remembering Hiroshima, Nagasaki and all Nuclear Bomb Victims (Un-Target People & Cities!)
Sept. 25 to 27	Peace Bene Nonviolence Service 20 th Anniversary Celebration. For details, visit http://peacebene.org/



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Interfaith Resistance to Nuclear Weapons

18 May 2009

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Dear Friends of Nevada Desert Experience,

The exhilaration has subsided from the momentous activity of the first two weeks of April. Participants in the Sacred Peace Walk as well as the Ground the Drones vigil have left. The NDE Council met after the Walk and their insights were helpful as always. We are now preparing follow-up actions and planning a remembrance of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We need to hear from you right away because our work has increased in volume and immediacy.

As you can see from the *Desert Cry!* bulletin on the other side, NDE has become a front-line voice challenging the widespread use of hunter-killer “drones” (Uninhabited Aerial Systems) which are controlled from Creech AFB in Indian Springs. The expanded, ongoing use of the drones and the continued threat to use nuclear weapons are two sharp prongs of U.S. military doctrine continuing in the Obama Administration. Proposals for a national arsenal of new, smaller bombs is neither disarmament nor non-proliferation. The anti-nuclear talk of the Obama administration may not be as forward thinking as we would like. (See “Anti-nuclear Nuclearism” in the February *Desert Voices*.)

Meanwhile, the group that walked and vigiled was inspired by the issues, the desert setting, the rituals we shared. There were many first time demonstrators, and some of them were elders while others were in college. They all left fired up to bring the issues back to their home communities: about nuclear weapons, about the drones, about the desert's beauty and about the struggle of the Western Shoshone and other Native Peoples for their land. Only with your support will NDE be able to continue to foster the work of these groups and new activists.

We function on a shoestring budget (under \$65,000 per year), but with the widespread economic problems, it is still a lot for us to raise. We keep expenses down in a variety of ways. We have part-time staff and low rent. We utilize in-kind donations whenever possible. Our car runs on used vegetable oil which reduces our fuel costs (and makes us smell like tempura). NDE is increasing our use of electronic communications so as to minimize the environmental and financial costs of printing and mailing. (Please remember to tell us if you just want to receive these electronically.) Despite our low overhead, we need your help now.

We need to project our voice more loudly and widely. Nonetheless, the *Desert Cry!* that accompanies this letter serves as our next installment of *Desert Voices*. With your help we will have more good news to report in a full size publication about the nonviolent struggle for peace in this nuclear-armed world.

Thank you,

Jim Haber, NDE Coordinator



Above: Members of the “Ground the Drones 14” kneel as they vigil at Creech AFB just prior to being arrested. Left: Sacred Peace Walkers take a break one mile before reaching the peace camp across the highway from the Nevada Test Site.