

Nevada Desert Experience

Report from the Sacred Peace Walk, 2023

Nevada Desert Experience's 2023 Sacred Peace Walk, the first full post-COVID event April 1-7, was a great witness of resistance to the prevailing winds of division and devastation sweeping the world. With more than 40 people registering and others meeting us joining us on the road, it was a joyful reunion of old friends and meeting of new ones.

Sunday, April 2, City Walk

We began our walk on Palm Sunday at the Museum of Atomic Testing in Las Vegas and as we walked 14 miles through the Strip, downtown and then through the historic west side, we witnessed extravagant wealth and extreme poverty that is endemic to our war-based economy.

Our send off from the Atomic



Museum, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kettmIAVDs9Y>

Our walk through the streets of Las Vegas, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQIE9OPyJhU>

Monday, April 3, Snow in the Desert



On Monday, we left the city behind, walking up highway 95 through the desert. Many of us came from colder climates expecting an earlier spring in Nevada than we would see at home, but we were surprised by falling temperatures and squalls of rain, hail, snow and sleet, driving rains that forced us off the road. Our plans to camp by the road side that night at Lee Canyon had to be abandoned. Our friends at the Temple of Goddess Spirituality in Cactus Spring, where we had planned to camp Tuesday and Wednesday nights, took us in a day early and gave us a warm welcome as we ferried all the walkers up the road.

Tuesday, April 4, Walk to Creech, "Don't Panic!"

Creech Air Force Base, the center of drone warfare and assassinations by remote control located on Hwy 95 at Indian Springs, has been a stop on the way of the Sacred Peace Walk and a site of nonviolent civil resistance since 2009. A few days before our annual visit, the Air Force announced in the press that it would be conducting "a base-wide readiness exercise here between April 3-7, 2023... to ensure that Creech personnel are prepared to protect the base and the important mission we conduct here in the event of an external threat. During this timeframe, the use of protective equipment, to include body armor and firearms, is expected. There is no real-world threat to the base at this time and not to panic or call 911." When we arrived at Creech on Tuesday, as the authorities were informed that we would, and returned there the next morning, we were actually met with less security apparent than usual.

Wednesday, April 5, Three Walkers Arrested for Peace Making at Creech AFB



If the Air Force base's announcement and "not to panic" advisory were a clumsy psyops ploy to scare us away, it was ineffective, as during the Wednesday morning shift change, fifteen walkers blocked the road into the base, warning those deployed there to turn back from crimes and moral injury. Two, Lor Breyley and sylver pondolfino, remained in the roadway after police warning and were arrested by Las Vegas Metro Police along with CJ Preston, who improved on a stop sign at the entrance of the base, and held for some hours before being released from the Clark County Jail. Wednesday, we relaxed at the Goddess Temple, waited for our friends to get out of jail, returned to Creech to greet the people leaving the base and then celebrated the Full Moon with friends of the Goddess Temple.



Thursday, April 5, Walk to Peace Camp and the NNSS

On Thursday afternoon, we were welcomed by Johnny Bobb of the Western Shoshone National Council at the Peace Camp, across the highway from the so called National Nuclear Security Site. The NNSS, formerly known as the Nevada Test Site, was established on land stolen from the Western Shoshone nation. It was the primary testing ground of American nuclear devices from 1951 to 1992; 928 announced nuclear explosions occurred there, making it the most bombed place on

earth. Today it continues as the site of "subcritical" nuclear tests and other research for new nuclear bombs and for the "life-extension" of old ones.

Good Friday, April 7, Sunrise at Peace Camp, Nuclear Stations of the Cross and Civil Resistance to Nuclear Weapons



Johnny Bobb of the Western Shoshone National Council and walkers begin the day with a ritual welcoming the rise of the sun.

On Good Friday, April 7, the last leg from Peace Camp to the gate of the NNSS was a "Nuclear Stations of the Cross" procession from the historic Peace Camp. Eight walkers entered the site and despite having permission of the land's Shoshone owners, were taken into custody by local Nye County Sheriff's police, cited and released. Apparently, these eight, Richard Bishop, sylver pondolfino, Lor Breyley, Tessa Epstein, Mark Babson, George Killingsworth, Theo Kayser, and Catherine Hourcade, will be prosecuted in Beatty Justice Court.



A video from "the line" <https://youtu.be/suZ8CshijBI>

Happy Birthday, Daniel Ellsberg!

April 7 was the 92nd birthday of Daniel Ellsberg, the Pentagon Papers whistleblower and untiring campaigner against nuclear weapons. In February, Dan was diagnosed with inoperable pancreatic cancer and wrote th his friends:

"As I look back on the last sixty years of my life, I think there is no greater cause to which I could have dedicated my efforts. For the last forty years we have known that nuclear



war between the US and Russia would mean nuclear winter: more than a hundred million tons of smoke and soot from firestorms in cities set ablaze by either side, striking either first or second, would be lofted into the stratosphere where it would not rain out and would envelope the globe within days. That pall would block up to 70% of sunlight for years, destroying all harvests worldwide and causing death by starvation for most of the humans and other vertebrates on earth.

"So far as I can find out, this scientific near-consensus has had virtually no effect on the Pentagon's nuclear war plans or US/NATO (or Russian) nuclear threats. (In a like case of disastrous willful denial by many officials, corporations and other Americans, scientists have known for over three decades that the catastrophic climate change now underway--mainly but not only from burning fossil fuels--is fully comparable to US-Russian nuclear war as another existential risk.) I'm happy to know that millions of people--including all those friends and comrades to whom I

address this message!--have the wisdom, the dedication and the moral courage to carry on with these causes, and to work unceasingly for the survival of our planet and its creatures."

Two NDE Activists to be Tried for Trespass at the Test Site

On Monday, April 10, John Amidon and Brian Terrell appeared in Beatty Justice Court for a pretrial hearing on trespass citations filed after they were detained at what is known as the Nevada National Security Site at NDE's "Justice For Our Desert" event there last October. Judge Gus Sullivan insists that he has no jurisdiction to rule on the validity of the US Dept of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration's claim on the land and neither will the land use permits issued to the two by the Western Shoshone National Council be admitted as evidence at trial. A



motion by the defendants filed on April 25: "It is respectfully suggested that a Court that lacks jurisdiction on matters of ownership and legal occupancy over a parcel of land also lacks jurisdiction to find a defendant guilty of trespass there; in other words, the Court's perceived lack of jurisdiction to rule on these matters constitutes a lack of jurisdiction over trespass cases at the NNSS in general." At present, two separate bench trials are scheduled for John and Brian on July 10.

MEDIA ATTENTION:

the Akahata Newspaper in Japan

2023 April 7 Akahata

クリーランド空軍基地前でプラカードを掲げて無人機攻撃の中止を要求する人々。20日、インディアンズプリングス（ニューメキシコ州）



無人機攻撃の中止を 空軍基地前で行動

米ネバダ州
「戦争ではなく国民にお金を」
ネバダ州の反核平和団体「ネバダ砂漠の橋」(NDE)が呼びかけた平和行進は最終日の7日、同州最大都市ラスベガスの北西マリーキュリーにあるネバダ核実験場の正門前に到着しました。参加者は核実験の中止や核兵器の全面廃絶などを訴えました。

米先住民の西ジョシニ族のジョニー・ボブさん(71)は、核実験場にされた地帯にはもともと先住民が住んでいてたてた強固な「われわれはここで食料、水、薬草を手に入れて生きてきた。その場所が汚染されている」と怒りを表現しました。

参加者は太鼓をたたいたり歌を唄ったりしながらアピール。「私たちは米国の核兵器の犠牲になったすべての人々を代表してここにいる。次世代が核兵器の恐怖におびえて生きることのないようにしたい」などと次々に発言しました。

カリフォルニア州から参加した選考人のデビッド・バスターンさん(70)は「核兵器は禁止条約で廃絶も廃絶も保存もすべて禁止された。廃絶もそのものが違法だ」と強調。「今年の平和行進は昨年より北へ参加者が増えた。核兵器の絶滅がもたらす国民に知られていけばうれしい」と感銘を語っていました。

2023 April 9 Akahata



米ネバダで平和行進

核実験場前「廃絶を」

【マーキュリー（米西部ネバダ州）＝島田隆雄】
米西部ネバダ州の反核平和団体「ネバダ砂漠の橋」(NDE)が呼びかけた平和行進は最終日の7日、同州最大都市ラスベガスの北西マリーキュリーにあるネバダ核実験場の正門前に到着しました。参加者は核実験の中止や核兵器の全面廃絶などを訴えました。

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Minetaka Shimada, Washington, DC, based reporter for the Akahata Newspaper in Japan, walked the final miles to the test site and filed these reports-

Bar Crawl Radio

Alan Winson of Bar Crawl Radio walked with us the whole way and announces an eight part podcast series: BCR's 8-program series will be organized around the seven days of the walk.

Each day's activities will be covered but emphasis will be placed on the conversations I had with the participants and the ideas that arose. An overarching theme for each day will be explored. The first episode is posted -- a conversation with Joseph Kent -- curator of the Atomic Museum. See -- www.barcrawlradio.com or go to any of the major podcast platforms and subscribe to Bar Crawl Radio Podcast.

Also, we are planning an additional program on the history and goals of the NDE with Vera and



Pegasus -- and will be recorded after this present work is completed. BCR Desert Walk Series: "40 Years in the Desert: Walking with the NDE" 1. At the Atomic Museum – "History of Atomic Testing" - POSTED 2. Saturday: Activists Arrive at Nevada Desert Experience Compound. "Learning How to Protest—Safely." 3. Sunday: From Paradise to the Las Vegas Catholic Worker House. "Las Vegas is U.S. Central: Greed & Poverty." 4. Monday: "Yes! It Snows in the Desert!" 5. Tuesday: "Conversations at Sekhmet Goddess Temple" 6. Wednesday: "Stop Drones" @ Creech Air Force Base 7. Thursday: "From Sekhmet to the Peace Camp" 8. Friday: "At Nevada Nuclear Test Site's White Line."

To Use a Mountain

Four film makers making a documentary, "To Use A Mountain," accompanied us on the walk and stayed to join Brian and John in court. They describe their project: "Seconds of exposure, generations of debate, the history of nations, and epochs of geologic change – all overlap in the landscapes that define the American nuclear legacy and the quest to isolate 77,000 tons of nuclear waste for 10,000 years, entwining the rural geographies of the atomic age with the dreams, disillusionments and fortitudes of the stories that live within them."

EARTH RIOT



<https://revbilly.com/podcast/>

NDE coordinator Vera Anderson and peace walker sylver pondolino sing in Rev. Billy's Stop Shopping choir, and are featured in Earth Riot Podcast: #61: Rev. Billy & Savitri D share live coverage from this year's Sacred Peace Walk during Holy Week and the historical and present dangers of nuclear weapons.



Our thanks to all who walked with us, in person or in spirit, for prayers, donations, hospitality and many kindnesses along the road.

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