

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Catholic Worker-Led Protests Against Nukes & Drones in Nevada

WHAT: Demonstration/Protest

WHEN: Sunday October 9, 2011

WHERE: 9:00 a.m. Gate of Nevada National Security Site, Mercury, NV

1:00 p.m. Gates of Creech Air Force Base, Indian Springs, NV

VISUALS: Signs, Banners, Puppets and Props, Civil-Resistance

(Las Vegas) The largest anti-war demonstration ever at Creech Air Force Base in Indian Springs, Nevada, and the largest anti-nuclear civil resistance action in at least six years at the Nevada Test Site (now officially called the Nevada National Security Site or NNSS) will take place on Sunday, October 9. Over 200 radical pacifists from across the globe will swell the ranks of local activists because of the International Catholic Worker (CW) gathering in Las Vegas October 7 and 8. The CW gathering culminates with the anti-nuclear, anti-drone demonstrations which also mark the 10th tragic anniversary of the US invasion of Afghanistan.

Creech Air Force Base is the headquarters of the USAF's 432nd Air Wing of Predator and Reaper drones which operates armed remotely piloted aircraft in various foreign countries. The NNSS continues to support the country's nuclear weapons programs, has a mandate to restart full-scale nuclear bomb tests within two years if so ordered by the President, and receives and stores radioactive waste on land that legally belongs to the Western Shoshone Nation.

Jim Haber, Coordinator of Nevada Desert Experience which has a long history of peace activism in Nevada commented, "We are making connections to the Occupy Everywhere movement as well, but our prime focus is against war and killing as epitomized first by nuclear weapons and now drone assassins. Both rely on anti-democratic, secretive sites like these, the militarization of space, the desecration of ecosystems, and the swallowing of money that could otherwise be used to solve, rather than create social problems."

"We are at an important milestone with 10 years of occupation in Afghanistan (and 8 in Iraq), expending millions of our tax dollars on unmanned aerial vehicles which are responsible for thousands of civilian deaths. The wars have bankrupted our country. It's time to stop the deadly drone strikes," states Nancy Mancias, CODEPINK Ground the Drones campaigner.

The protests are also part of the Keep Space for Peace Week: International Week of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space taking place between October 1-8. Keep Space for Peace Week is co-sponsored by the Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (UK), Swedish Peace Council, Drone Campaign Network (UK), and United Against Drones (U.S.). A complete list of global protests can be found at www.space4peace.org