



Planted by the Waters

Summer 2016

Ecumenical Peace Institute/CALC • P. O. Box 9334 • Berkeley, CA 94709 • (510) 990-0374 • www.epicalc.org

Empire and the Cross

Sowing the Seeds of Hope

Report on the 2016 Good Friday Witness

The Good Friday witness at the Livermore nuclear weapons lab opened at sunrise with songs from Daniel Zwickel and Silvia Brandon-Pérez. Honoring the land and the ancestors, Patricia St. Onge led us in honoring the Ohlone People who were the first peoples on this land and in sending thanks and love to all the ecosystem of which we are a part and all our relations and to the creator who gives us life, concluding with “and now our minds are one.”

Zahra Billoo of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) shared her thoughts about messages of hostility and of solidarity left on her office voicemail. She thanked us for our ongoing presence, year after year, for being clear about our values and hopes for our community and for our country. She prayed with us the opening chapter of the Koran, “Praise be to God, Master of the universe, Master of the day of judgment. You alone we turn to. You alone we ask for help. Guide us on the straight path, the path of those whom you have favored, not the path of those who have gone astray.”

Liturgical dancer and choreographer Carla DeSola and dancers Christine Bachich, Jacqueline Chew, Claire Eustace and Soyinka Rahim performed a sacred dance based on a recording of the Beatitudes as sung by Sweet Honey in the Rock. We were invited to stand in response to the beatitude which calls us, to which we would live by.

The responsive reading, led by Stephen McDermott Myers (Esteban) and Silvia, was based on the sermons of Archbishop Oscar Romero and scriptures from various traditions.

On Good Friday Marylia Kelley of TriValley CARES thinks of the ultimate violence of nuclear weapons mocking the Prince of Peace . . . power over, domination and violence rather than power with, cooperation, empowerment. She reminded us that on Good Friday Christians also look forward to the resurrection as the new day of important change. We are here to bring about a positive change in Livermore lab, in our society, in our hearts and

continued on page 2

The New Mccarthyism

by Vivian Zelaya

The Montgomery Bus Boycott, the United Farmworkers’ Grape Boycott, the Salvadoran Coffee Boycott, The South African Anti-Apartheid Boycott — what proud moments those were! Their success brought a modicum of justice and humanity into our lives and the lives of those oppressed by inequality and powerlessness. All of us who honored justice and professed nonviolence had found an effective tool in the struggle against the cruelty of racism and elitism.

When Governor Cuomo made his end run around the New York legislature in order to blacklist all who engaged BDS (Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions) against the scofflaw, Jim Crow, State of Israel, it was a new low for our human rights, our first amendment constitutional rights, the oppression of conscience and the victories of non-violent civic engagement. Was he pandering to wealthy donors? Does he really believe that Palestinians are less human and have fewer human rights than Israelis? He doesn’t seem to be opposed to boycotts. He recently banned non-essential employee travel to North Carolina because of that state’s anti-LGBT laws. Some human beings deserve human rights, but Palestinians do not.

Unfortunately, in California and other states, some legislators are trying to impose similar restrictions on those who answer the call of the BDS movement. Here the bill is AB 2844. It has been minimally modified to remove the word “Israel,” and to broaden the focus to prohibit boycotts on any country recognized by the U.S. no matter what they are doing. Perhaps our legislators are unaware of the cruelties that Palestinians are forced to endure under Israeli occupation. Perhaps they are unaware of the wanton slaughter of civilians and children trapped in the world’s largest outdoor prison called Gaza, the intentional destruction of water and sanitation facilities, the harassment and restrictions on fishermen and farmers, the destruction of fishing boats, and homes and hospitals and schools. Perhaps they don’t know how Palestinian homes are destroyed and how colonial settlers and military forces expropriate Palestinian lands.

Actually, considering what passes for journalism in our corporate media, their ignorance might not be surprising! Reports from human rights groups, of Israeli soldiers snatching Palestinian children from their beds, in the middle of the night, and hauling them off to jail, are usually suppressed by our mainstream media.

For decades, Americans have been kept ignorant of Israel’s transgressions of International Law. From the assault on the U.S.S. Liberty, to the illegal colonial settle-

continued on page 10



Photo by Christina Tuorek

Empire and the Cross, *continued from page 1*

in the world. Together we are making a difference. . . . She had with her a model of the W80-4 nuclear warhead, a pretty small warhead which can cause the death of hundreds of thousands and can lead to nuclear war, and showed us a chart showing the massive imbalance in the president's budget for weapons development.

Right now at the lab they are developing the W80-4 modification, a new nuclear warhead called the Long Range Stand-Off Warhead. While Livermore develops the warhead, the Pentagon is developing a new cruise missile — a radar-evading, ground-hugging nuclear weapon that can be launched from an airplane that can remain thousands of miles from its target. This is a sneak nuclear attack weapon. It is for nuclear war fighting. We have got to stop the funding for this weapon. TriValley CAREs had letters to be sent to Senators Boxer and Feinstein, both of whom have come out against the development of this weapon. Feinstein is ranking member of the committee which will control funding of this weapon and she writes that the missile seems to be designed to make it more useable and to make it possible to fight a limited nuclear war and she "finds that a shocking concept." TriValley's letter thanks the senators for their position and encourages them to take the necessary next step of preventing the funding of this weapon.

Our Words of Inspiration, read by Wilson Riles, Jr. and Rev. Max Lynn, were Isaiah 65:21 - 23 and Berta Cáceres' address upon receiving the Goldman Environmental Prize in 2015. Later, Rev. Deborah Lee closed her sermon with these texts:

They will build houses and live in them;
they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They won't build for others to live in,
nor plant for others to eat.
Like the days of a tree will be the days of my people;
and the works of their hands shall long serve them
They will not labor in vain,
nor bear children to a world of horrors.

Isaiah 65:21-23

Wake Up! Wake Up, Humankind!
We are out of time!

We must shake our conscience free of the rapacious capitalism, racism and patriarchy that will only assure our own self-destruction. The Gualcarque River has called upon us as have other gravely threatened rivers. We must hear their call. Our Mother Earth, militarized, fenced in, poisoned, a place where basic rights are systematically violated demands that we take action. Let us build societies that are able to co-exist in a dignified way that protects life. Let us come together and remain hopeful as we defend and care for the blood of this Earth and its spirits.

¡Despertemos! ¡Despertemos, Humanidad! ¡Ya no hay tiempo!

Nuestras conciencias serán sacudidas por el hecho de estar solo contemplando la autodestrucción basada en la depredación capitalista, racista y patriarcal. El Río Gualcarque nos ha llamado, así como los demás que están seriamente amenazados en todo el mundo. Debemos acudir. La Madre Tierra militarizada, cercada, envenenada, donde se violan sistemáticamente

los derechos elementales, nos exige actuar. Construyamos entonces sociedades capaces de coexistir de manera justa, digna y por la vida. Juntémonos y sigamos con esperanza defendiendo y cuidando la sangre de la tierra y de sus espíritus.

Berta Cáceres, martyr, environmental and indigenous leader, 1969-2016

After the reading of the Words of Inspiration, we were blessed by the presence of Rev. Julian Riklon from the Marshall Islands, whose original home island was contaminated by the atomic bomb tests in 1954. His other home island is Kwajalein, where the U.S. continues to test long range missiles into the lagoon. His medical records are somewhere in Livermore where they are compared with the records of others who have been affected by nuclear contamination. Missionaries came to the islands saying we are to love one another, and he is puzzled because his home island has been used instead to test weapons. He brings us greetings from the people of the islands who have suffered under testing all these years.

In her homily, Rev. Deborah Lee told us of the struggle of the Lenca people of Honduras and the brutal murder of Berta Cáceres who had led that struggle to protect the Gualcarque River from exploitation by the ten wealthy families of Honduras and their international big business allies.

"Berta's death left her friends shocked, devastated, exhausted, confused — grieving, but they had to keep moving forward. This is what Jesus' friends might have been going through that Friday after his death. In Honduras for Berta's funeral, Rev. Deborah was told the names of over one hundred martyrs of the land and rivers who had struggled so that the natural resources and beauty of Honduras could be shared and enjoyed by the majority of the Honduran people, not transnational mining companies, hydroelectric power companies, banana and palm oil plantations. Berta's murder, her friends said, was an ecological assassination, an attempt to silence her critique against Empire: the Honduran and US military, international corporate interests, and oligarchic political forces willing to privatize all of Honduras.

"Berta was crucified, like the crucifixion story told on Good Friday about a poor Jewish peasant from Nazareth. The itinerant preacher, healer and critic of Empire, organizing to awaken the consciousness of a beaten down people, telling them that they had every right to challenge the military, economic, and political forces that sought to oppress



Photo by Christina Tworek



Photo by Christina Tworek

Seven Days In Sunny Honduras:

*A few suggestions for the curious first-time visitor
by Adrienne Aron*

(Maybe you've been to Central America before, but, as President Reagan once said, "You'd be surprised. They're all individual countries down there.")

Day 1 SATURDAY – a cultural experience

Visit the **Plaza Morazán** in the heart of the old city of Tegucigalpa to see the crowds and street vendors and musicians, and the huge equestrian statue honoring General Francisco Morazán, who was president of the republic in 1830. Look closely, decide if the man on the horse looks Honduran. Could it be that the story Galeano told in *The Open Veins of Latin America*, and García Márquez repeated in his acceptance speech for the 1982 Nobel Prize, is true? Did the Honduran guys who were sent to Europe to commission a monument to Morazán really blow all their money on booze and women, and wind up bringing back a mounted Marshal Ney of Napoleon's army — which they picked up on the cheap at the flea market in Paris? Galeano recanted after he was shown the name of the sculptor on the statue's base, but some skeptics believe the signature is a forgery.

Day 2 SUNDAY - a religious experience

Visit the **cathedral**, where Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga presides. Sometimes called the "Vice-Pope" because he is Chief of the Council of Cardinals, he is also sometimes called "Cardinal Golpe," ("Cardinal Coup") for his support of the 2009 coup that overthrew the government of Mel Zelaya, the popular legal president of Honduras. See the side of the cathedral where **CARDINAL GOLPE** was spray-painted in bold letters by the National Front of Popular Resistance (FNRP). Every day, in the weeks following the coup, the denunciation appeared, and every night it was washed away by the anti-graffiti workers employed by the church. Back In 1991, two years after the massacre of Catholic priests in El Salvador, Fr. Rodriguez and Col. Juan López-Grijalva, of Battalion 3-16, the Honduran Death Squad, lectured as guest speakers at the U.S. School of the Americas (SOA), where the killers were trained.¹ If the Cardinal is in, ask him to comment on Fr. Ernesto Cardenal's observation that "To bless the sword of Goliath is not the same as to bless the slingshot of David."²

Day 3 MONDAY – a post-religious experience

Still mindful of religious thoughts lingering from Sunday's cathedral visit, go to the National Security Office, to inquire about several matters:

1) Is it still true, as reported by the New York Times, that the website of this office states: "All people shall obey the governing authorities, because there is no authority other than God, and those in place have been established by God"?³

2) Berta Cáceres, the famed environmentalist, was assassinated by men whose names she had reported to Julian Pacheco, Chief of National Security, because they had been making threats against her life. The prosecutors in charge of the case even have recordings of the killers discussing the crime. Still, the National Security Office did nothing to protect Berta Cáceres. When God placed Mr. Pacheco as chief of the Office of Security, were there instructions to

continued on page 6

Popular demand for accountability leads to election annulment in Haiti

by Marilyn Langlois

On a visit to Haiti in late April with Task Force on the Americas, a California-based organization in solidarity with the social justice movements of Latin America and the Caribbean, we witnessed another example of Haitians resisting US attempts to facilitate continued looting of the country's resources and to sabotage its democracy.

Democracy has been sorely missing in the island nation ever since the 2004 coup d'état backed by the US, France and Canada, which ushered in a 2-year reign of terror, followed by the unjust exclusion of Haiti's largest and most popular political party, Fanmi Lavalas, from participating in any elections until August and October, 2015. The most recent president, Michel Martelly, had been pushed fraudulently to the forefront of sham elections in 2011 by then-US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Haitians we met with did not appreciate this interference, as he stole public funds, privatized valuable natural resources, and instituted a paramilitary security force reminiscent of the notorious Duvalier era.

The October 25, 2015 first-round presidential election was riddled with massive irregularities, voter intimidation, ballot-box stuffing and tampering with tally sheets, as has been widely reported and documented. People we met with from different sectors, including two of the presidential candidates, affirmed the nature and extent of the electoral fraud. Yet the US has pushed for a quick run-off between the ostensible top two vote-getters, which Haitians have successfully resisted with persistent, large scale street demonstrations.



Graffiti in Jacmel: "Electoral coup d'état = revolution"

Physical structures can symbolize power or lack thereof. The Haitian National Palace, seat of government and source of national pride for 200 years, was severely damaged in the 2010 earthquake and has since been leveled. All we could see was a tall fence surrounding the now-empty site. On the other hand, shortly after the 2004 coup, the US Embassy was relocated from a modest downtown Port-au-Prince building to a newly constructed gigantic, fortress-like compound outside of town, surrounded on all sides by United Nations "MINUSTAH" military bases.

Our group, consisting of seven US citizens and one Canadian, met with Michael Gayle, Deputy Political Counselor in the US Embassy, to discuss the electoral crisis. As we underwent rigorous security protocols upon entering the compound—passport check, metal detectors, handbag

continued on page 10

Empire and the Cross, *continued from page 2*

them; that they had every right to oppose the complicity and corruption of the establishment institutions of the day; that the Kingdom of God was within them. Jesus' crucifixion, like Berta's, was meant to send a message, to be a public death, so as to quiet a discontented population.

"Today," said Rev. Deborah, "my topic is Empire and the Cross, and I am seeing so clearly how Empire, the total control of all aspects of life, is maintained and reinforced by acts of public terror — death as deterrent. The public, extrajudicial killings of Black Lives — as if black lives do not matter, are not loved and cherished — maintain an empire based on white supremacy. Such acts of terror seek to frighten and terrorize entire communities, today as in the beginning of this nation, as if to say, 'stay in your place, keep quiet, or else.'

"Empire, the militarized control and extraction of the land and water, the very essence of life, now has forced the extraction of people just seeking a little piece of land. A woman farmer, Orbelina Flores, whom I met at Berta's funeral, put it simply for me:

'We want to go to school, but we can't.
We want to eat, but there is not enough.
We want to grow our own food, but there is no land.
We start organizing for opportunity and a different future.

Then they start to threaten you with assassinations.
And then you are forced to leave your country, before they kill you.'

"Whole communities have been forced to leave, displaced by economic interests, corporate contamination, other nations' wars over natural resources. People, forced to abandon their homes and flee, extracted and exiled, with nothing but their labor and bodies to sell, so vulnerable to exploitation and abuse — subjected to the public terror of death by rubber dingy boat over the Mediterranean Sea, or death by bandits on the tops of trains, or death by desert.

"Empire maintains itself through public acts of terror. Like Nagasaki and Hiroshima, atomic and nuclear weapons, used to threaten and bully our way into other nations allying in our wars, hosting our military bases and operations, and opening their nations to our economic policies. Bending to our wishes, or else. This Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory is a shrine to war, to the God of National Security, where more terrifying weapons are dreamed up to achieve what the US military calls: 'Full spectrum dominance: control of the air, the sea, the land, and space. In its control, all the elements of life.'

"But Death is not the final word!

"They try Death as deterrent, but migrants are not deterred when root causes are left untended. As Somali-born poet, Warsan Shire says — 'No one puts a child in a boat unless the water is safer than the land.' Along the migrant trail at shelters through Guatemala and Mexico, migrant families and individuals are allowed to rest and recuperate, to strengthen and restore their dignity. And in about three days they are ready to continue on their way again.

"They try Death as deterrent: But the people of Honduras are not deterred. Thousands upon thousands came to Berta's funeral . . . by the third day, they were in the streets — defiant, organized, demanding justice for Berta and those who are still alive, fighting against the 42 other dam

projects in Honduras. Denouncing not just this assassination, but also the assassination of hunger, the assassination of poverty that they face everyday. Saying that the love of God is not stopped because of this violence. We cannot let fear dominate. As long as we don't have fear, we live, and they do not win. I am not afraid to die, because others will carry on the struggle. 'They fear us because we are fearless.' was one of Berta's favorite sayings."

Rev. Deborah's second topic of the sermon was "Sowing the seeds of Hope." The Empire has the cross, but we have the seeds of hope. And here are three seeds she leaves with us:

"1. The first seed is a trait people used to describe Berta: She was stubborn they say. Stubbornness as a virtue. Stubbornness for justice. Continue to be the splinter in the foot, the blade of grass that breaks through the concrete. This witness has been happening here outside the Nuclear labs since 1982, when 1300 people were arrested at these gates. Hold on to the seed of hope that comes from stubbornness for life, for truth, for justice.

"2. The second seed also comes from Berta. And it is the seed of being deeply and spiritually connected to the sacredness of land and water. . . . Most of us here are migrants and settlers to this land. We have so much to learn and unlearn about how to be deeply connected to the sacred river, sacred story, sacred land under which the Chochenyo Ohlone ancestors are buried. As guests on this land, it is our duty and our obligation to love and respect this land and native people's struggles. Hold on to the seed of hope that comes from our connection to the sacredness of land and water.

"3. The third seed of hope is accompanying the victims of systemic injustice, those who are the witnesses, the survivors, those who are still alive. That could mean accompanying those fighting for the liberation of black people or those displaced by our militarism and economic policies. As the program director on Immigration for the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, Rev. Deborah invites us to join in extending the hand of solidarity, support and justice for migrants displaced from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador today.

"We are the seeds of hope. As surely as Archbishop Oscar Romero said, in anticipation of his own assassination in 1980: 'May my blood be the seed of freedom.' As surely as the precious seeds brought by African slaves from the continent. The seeds of medicine, sustenance, spirit. With the potential to multiply into thousands more. 'Berta Cáceres did not die, she multiplied,' the people shouted. 'Berta was not buried, she was planted.'"

Rev. Deborah closed her sermon with the Isaiah text and Berta Cáceres' call to action.

After Rev. Deborah's homily, Silvia led us in her song *Para Berta, presente* inspired by the thought of Berta's being planted. The repeated theme is "We are Berta, many Bertas and we rise up every day." Then we joined in singing Malvina Reynold's song *God Bless the Grass*. Here is the second verse:

continued on page 5

Empire and the Cross, continued from page 4

“God bless the truth that fights toward the sun.
They roll the lies over it
and think that it is done.
It moves through the ground
and reaches for the air,
and after a while it is growing everywhere.
And God bless the grass.”

*copyright Schroder Music Company
used with permission*

The Benediction and Call to Action were offered by Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb. Offering peace in Hebrew and Arabic, she remembered for us walking the Atomic Mirror Pilgrimage across the U.S. in 1995. She brought to us the story of the flame in the Hiroshima peace park, which will burn until there are no more nuclear weapons on the face of this earth, until we have healed this planet. Like that flame we will remain vigilant against these weapons until that flame is extinguished, the true flame of our compassion and our common sense rises up in every human heart, and we step away from weapons of destruction. May the earth, the waters, the sky heal us. Amen.



The procession from the service and by the Stations of the Cross was greeted by Soyinka Rahim playing haunting Native American flute as we gathered in a circle around the earth ball. Led by Carla DeSola, Esteban and the dancers, we moved in a circle dance to Agnus Dei from Paul Winters’ Missa Gaia (Earth Mass), recognizing the many crucifixions in this world and to this day. Then twenty-three of us stood before the gates in prayer and witness and were arrested for disturbing the Orwellian peace.



Photos on this page by Amanda and Tony Scarr

Para Berta, presente

Eres flor y eres semilla
Eres paz y eres caricia
Somos Berta, muchas Bertas
Y surgimos cada día.

Te sembramos una tarde
Te sembramos en la tierra
Y los árboles se nutren
De la Berta que germina.

Somos Berta, muchas Bertas
Y surgimos cada día.
Y cosechamos tus frutos,
Lo alegre de tu sonrisa.

Somos Berta, muchas Bertas
Y surgimos cada día.
Y cosechamos tus frutos,
Lo alegre de tu sonrisa.

For Berta, presente

You are flower and you are seed
You are peace and sweet caress
We are Berta, many Bertas
and we rise up every day.

For we planted you one evening
We did plant you in the earth
And the trees are deeply nourished
From the Berta germinating.

We are Berta, many Bertas
and we rise up every day.
And we reap now all your fruit,
The joy that is in your smile.

We are Berta, many Bertas
and we rise up every day.
And we reap now all your fruit,
The joy that is in your smile.

Copyright © 2016 Silvia Brandon-Pérez



Honduras, continued from page 3

deny certain people protection?

3) Is it true that Mr. Pacheco is not one of the individuals being investigated in connection with the assassination of Berta Cáceres?

4) Mr. Pacheco received training at the SOA/WHIN-SEC. Was the National Security Office's decision to withhold protection to Ms. Cáceres consistent with the training he received at SOA?

5) In the photograph posted by Karen Spring on www.aquiabajo.com 6/8/2016, Mr. Pacheco looks proud as he stands with President Hernandez and members of the Special Reform Commission for the Purging and Transformation of the Police. The Commission was created by national decree on April, 7, 2016, at the instigation of U.S.-funded Evangelical Christians.⁴ One of the commissioners, pastor Evelio Reyes, has instructed his congregation "not to vote for homosexuals or lesbians," because they "corrupt the model of God." When God placed Mr. Pacheco as chief of the Security Office, was that model part of the deal?

Day 4 TUESDAY – a patriotic experience

With thoughts of security in mind, go today to the United States Embassy. Get clarification of the following advisory, which appears on the Embassy's website:

U.S. CITIZENS WHO FEEL AS THOUGH THEY ARE IN DANGER, HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY THREATENED BY A GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL, OR WHO HAVE SPECIAL SECURITY CONCERNS, SHOULD CONSIDER HIRING THE SERVICES OF A PRIVATE SECURITY FIRM WHILE THEY ARE IN HONDURAS.⁵

According to the Violence Observatory of the National University, there are currently 700 private security companies operating in the country, and most of them are not legally registered.⁶ How does one make an informed decision about which company to hire? Many of the 100,000 security officers employed by these companies lack minimal qualifications and receive little training, though they are armed to the teeth. Can the embassy recommend a company? Does the embassy know what percentage of the former military and police who are working for these companies are associated with a death squad? Also, if one must call the police, which is it better to call—a high-ranking official in one of the anti-drug units, or a high-ranking official employed by the drug cartels?⁷ Does the embassy know of any investigators who can be trusted not to cover up evidence of the crime?

Finally, is the embassy still hosting missions of the Denver-based Chamber of the Americas? Can visitors find out how to purchase a community in Honduras? Presumably, even if one is not a corporation, one can take advantage of the new ZEDEs (Employment and Economic Development Zones), to erect a semi-sovereign mini-country with independent laws and judiciary, and the right to make one's own private government, in disregard of Honduran law.⁸ Carlos Slim, the world's richest man (Forbes estimates his fortune at US \$60.6 billion), and Bill Clinton (of the Clinton Foundation, which Forbes estimates as having an endowment of US \$46 billion) have both been involved with the Chamber in Honduras, and former Deputy Foreign Minister, Alden Rivera, expressed the hope that their presence would do much to promote Honduras "as a tourism destination to the world, thereby attracting foreign investors." If one invests and makes a mini-country, but engages

in activities outside the free market model, what guarantee will there be that the U.S. government will not invade the mini-country, declare it a failed state, and take over its assets?

Day 5 WEDNESDAY – a military experience

Visit Soto Cano Air Base (formerly known as Palmerola), home of the Southern Command. Ask for spokesperson Robert Appin. Show him the copy of *USA Today*, 8/16/2009, which quotes his email to the Associated Press that said U.S. forces at Soto Cano "were not involved in the flight that carried President Zelaya to Costa Rica on June 28, and the American troops had no knowledge or part in the decisions made for the plane to land, refuel and take off."

Thanks to emails of then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, we know that U.S. officials were aware of the plot to overthrow the democratically elected government, and that Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Thomas Shannon and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Craig Kelley met with the planners a few days before the June 28, 2009 coup. The diplomats urged the Honduran generals to find a nicer way to express their discontent with President Zelaya. But the planners' idea to kidnap the president in his pajamas, take him to the US army base, and then fly him out of the country, prevailed. Did the planners simply forget to mention to the U.S. Southern Command that the plane would be stopping at Soto Cano for fuel? *A failure of communication?*

Is any part of the FY 2017 \$106 million in bilateral assistance that the U.S. budgeted for Honduras slated for improved communications? What part of the additional \$12 million counter-narcotics aid was designated for "secure communications equipment," as compared with other forms of support to the Honduran military?⁹ How will communications be affected if H.R. 5474 passes? This bill, introduced on June 15, 2016, calls for all U.S. military and police aid to Honduras to be suspended until the Honduran security forces' human rights violations cease, and the perpetrators are brought to justice.¹⁰

Day 6 THURSDAY – a rural experience

For this experience, private security is definitely recommended. The 2009 coup marked a sharp rise in attacks on activists for social and environmental justice in the countryside. According to Global Witness, in 2015 Honduras was the most dangerous country in the world for environmental activists.¹¹ If the trip to rural areas is deemed too risky, travelers should consider staying in town and reading *Prisión Verde*, a bestseller by Honduran novelist Ramón Amaya Amador. Written in the 1940s and set in the banana plantations where Honduran campesinos tried to organize against their desperate exploitation, the book is so remarkably current, it could have been written last year. In Honduras, 75% of the rural population still lives below the poverty line, unable to meet basic needs. Foreign investors and big money operations continue to usurp the land and despoil the environment, pushing the impoverished indigenous people into ever more desperate conditions, then describing the "development" as a favor to the dispossessed inhabitants. In reference to the AguaZarca dam project that Berta Cáceres was killed for trying to stop, Fox News on June 6, 2016, three months after her assassination, titled

continued on page 7

Honduras, continued from page 6

a story "Honduras Hydroelectric Dam Seeks to Generate Profits for Local Communities." The article explained that the AguaZarca project "is under construction in an area inhabited by indigenous groups living in extreme poverty in a country where 16.5 percent of the population gets by on less than \$1.25 daily, according to U.N. data. The idea . . . is to generate profits and for those profits to flow back to the communities."

In 2011, Fr. Roy Bourgeois and Lisa Sullivan of SOA-Watch led a human rights delegation to the Aguan Valley in Northern Honduras, to support a community under siege by a big operator who wanted to convert the area into plantations for the production of palm oil. Small farmers were resisting the takeover of their parcels. The big operator's private security forces had sealed off the area, making it impossible for anyone to come or go, but Fr. Roy and his little delegation were determined to cross the line, in solidarity with the hemmed-in people. At the last minute a call came from Bertha Oliva of the COFADEH human rights office in Tegucigalpa, instructing the delegation to turn back because the movement needed them alive. (COFADEH is the Committee of Relatives of the Disappeared in Honduras). The following day the land usurper's private army shot a man dead on the same access road where the SOA-Watch group had turned around. The killer need not fear punishment. Less than 4% of homicides in this country that has come to be known since the coup as the murder capital of the world, result in convictions.¹²

DAY 7 FRIDAY – an urban tour

An interesting way to spend a final day in Honduras would be to visit places that represent relations between the United States and our neighbor Honduras. Possibly there is a map showing the intervention sites of U.S. Marines' landings in Honduras—in 1903, 1907, 1911, 1912, 1919, 1924 and 1925—or where the Contra troops President Reagan called "freedom fighters" were based in the 1980s while they launched attacks on schools, clinics, and hundreds of other civilian targets across the border in Nicaragua, in an effort to destroy the Sandinista revolution. Or, there might be a Yelp-like map of the country showing the locations of restaurants familiar to U.S. visitors: Burger King, McDonald's, Subway, Wendy's, Pizza Hut, KFC, Denny's, Popeye's, Little Caesar's... Or best of all, see if you can find Col. Juan López-Grijalva, a retired Honduran military officer with strong attachments to the USA. Since he last left the United States, in 2004, there seems to be no record whatsoever of his whereabouts.

In 1963 this man attended the Officer Cadet Course at the School of the Americas. In 1969 he trained again at SOA, and in 1975 he was a guest instructor in the school's Command & General Staff College. López-Grijalva (sometimes spelled Grijalba) then spent the 1980s as a key member of the CIA-created Battalion 3-16,¹³ organizing death squad activities. Promoted to Director of the Honduran Department of Investigations (DNI), he authorized kidnappings, tortures, murders, and other monstrous human rights abuses committed by the state security forces. In 1991 and '92 he came to the United States again, as a guest speaker at the SOA. In the mid-'90s he retired to a condo in Miami, evading an arrest warrant in Honduras that charged him with the 1982 murders of two leftists who were disappeared, and whose bodies turned up five days

later in a vacant lot in the town of Choluteca.¹⁴

After Hurricane Mitch caused massive destruction in Central America in 1998, Hondurans residing in the U.S. became eligible for TPS (Temporary Protective Status), an immigration status allowing them to stay in the country. López-Grijalva was granted TPS, despite the outstanding warrant in Honduras, which should have disqualified him from even entering the U.S. Richard Krieger, a resident of Boynton Beach, Florida, has compiled a list of some 800 suspected torturers and other human rights abusers believed to be living in the United States, and it was Krieger, acting on a tip from Honduran human rights activists, who spotted López-Grijalva and got him arrested in April, 2002. According to the Miami Sun Sentinel, the Department of Homeland Security revoked López-Grijalva's Temporary Protected Status because of his involvement in "serious non-political offenses" prior to entering the United States.¹⁵ The newspaper did not specify what a political offense might look like. Ultimately, he was deported, on June 11, 2004.

With the help of the Center for Justice and Accountability, six of López-Grijalva's victims won a case against him in a Miami federal court, marking the first time that a Honduran military leader was held responsible for human rights violations.¹⁶ The court held López-Grijalba liable for torture, extrajudicial killings, and disappearances, and ordered him to pay \$47 million to the plaintiffs. Remarkably, the Attorney General in Honduras began procedures to prosecute López-Grijalva in his home country. But where is he?

If you are not able to locate Juan López-Grijalva, maybe you can continue the search after you return to the U.S.A., the country that was so hospitable to him in past years. If this killer is still alive, catching him could be a wonderful way to wind up your fascinating week in sunny Honduras.

End Notes

1. Linda Cooper and James Hodge, "U.S. Delegation Enters Tense Honduras," 7/8/2009. <http://incronlinr.org/news/global/us-delegation-enters-tense-honduras> Accessed 6/8/16.
2. Ernesto Cardenal, "Revolution as an Act of Love," Acceptance speech for the Peace Prize of the Guild of German book sellers, 10/14/1980.
3. Oscar Martínez, "The Macho Cops of Honduras," *New York Times*, 3/7/2014.
4. Karen Spring, "U.S. Funded Evangelicals and Coup Supporters Behind the New Commission to Purge the Honduran Police," <http://www.aquiabajo.com/> 6/8/2016. Accessed 6/8/16.
5. <http://honduras.usembassy.gov/mobile/privsecfirms.html> Accessed 6/11/16.
6. "3 Times as Many Honduran Private Security Agents as Police," *TeleSUR*, 1/7/2015 www.telesurto.net/ Accessed 6/10/16.
7. Elisabeth Malkin and Alberto Arce, "Files Suggest Honduran Police Leaders Ordered Killing of Antidrug Officials," *New York Times*, April 15, 2016.
8. Peter J. Meyer, "Honduras: Background and U.S. Relations," Congressional Research Service, 5/23/2016, p. 23. <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL34027.pdf> Accessed 6/8/16.
9. Meyer, p. 12 <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL34027.pdf> Accessed 6/8/16.

continued on page 8

School of the Americas Watch

by Silvia Brandon-Pérez

School of the Americas Watch will converge on the U.S./Mexico border in Nogales, Sonora/Arizona, from October 7 to the 10th to demand a fundamental shift in U.S. foreign policy.

As I have written before, we are once again at a time when our interference in the affairs of other nations, and our wholesale sponsorship of violence, both economic and political, is causing widespread destabilization at our southern borders. Some of the forces that the U.S. has trained at locations such as the School of the Americas have seen the main chance and are raping, murdering and terrorizing the local citizenry. Some of the hardest hit areas, such as Honduras, have become crime capitals. And the victims, including unaccompanied children fleeing to our shores, are branded and treated as criminals. Add to this the anti-immigrant rhetoric which has become more virulent during this election year, and you can see why we, as people of conscience, must take a stand.

This evil stew is seasoned with our nation's huge investment in prisons for profit. The worst of these prisons are destined for the refugees from our own national misdeeds. Last year during the annual convergence at Fort Benning, I participated in the largest immigration protest in Lumpkin, Georgia, with over 1200 other activists. Standing outside the gates of the Stewart Detention Center, which houses more prisoners than the town of Lumpkin has residents, we heard testimony, shared songs, and cheered on people participating in civil disobedience, because Stewart is one more place where, rather than welcoming refugees, the U.S. is maintaining fetid prisons where medical care is lacking and the conditions of imprisonment are inhumane.

There are international humanitarian standards under Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948, to which the U.S. is a signatory, guaranteeing the right to seek and enjoy asylum in other countries. The controlling international convention on refugee law is the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. This is international law, but what our nation is doing is treating refugees as criminals, sometimes labeling them as terrorists, and using them as yet another way to make our bloated prison system, which holds the largest number of prisoners of any other nation in the world, a profitable concern. Clearly, under international standards, we are the terrorists.

The solution offered to the crisis of the unaccompanied children arriving on our shores has been to militarize further the borders of Mexico and Central America; Mexico now uses our tax dollars to deport Central Americans at a high rate. Of course we are not the only nation that is mistreating refugees, or profiting from private prisons, but it has become yet another way that the prison industrial complex as conceived in our country is profiting from human misery; human misery, to boot, that we have engineered and promoted with our dreadful foreign and economic policies.

The decision to move to the border came after much investigation and travel to border towns and across the border. Just as SOA Watch arose in response to the dirty

Honduras, continued from page 7

10. To add your Member of Congress as a co-sponsor of the bill, contact his or her staffer, and have the staffer contact Arya Hariharan (arya.hariharan@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Johnson's (GA) office.

11. Cited by Hon. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson and Hon. Keith Ellison in March 16, 2016 request to Secretary of State John Kerry and Secretary of Treasury Jacob Lew to "address appalling levels of violence and extreme violations of civil rights in Honduras." The Congress members call for an immediate stop to "all assistance to Honduran security forces, including training and equipment, given the implication of the Honduran military and police in extrajudicial killings, illegal detentions, torture and other violations of human rights."

12. Omar Rivera, "Solo el 4% de los Culpables de Delitos son Sancionados," *La Tribuna* (Honduras), 11/30/ 2015. Cited by Meyer, n. 34, <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RL34027.pdf> Accessed 6/8/16.

13. "Plan to Establish an Intelligence Battalion of the Honduran Armed Forces" CIA document released by WikiLeaks, dated 21 July 1983, stating "2. THE INTELLIGENCE BATTALION WILL BE UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF LT. COL. JUAN (LOPEZ) GRIJALVA, J-2 OF THE ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF."

http://www.foia.cia.gov/sites/default/files/document_conversions/89801/DOC_0000283027.pdf

14. *Newsweek*, "Found: A Foreign Fugitive," 4/18/2001. (For unknown reasons, the warrant was annulled when López-Grijalva returned to Honduras after being deported from the USA).

15. Ruth Morris, "Death Squad Suspect Deported to Honduras," *Miami Sun Sentinel*, 10/22/2004.

16. <http://cja.org/what-we-dollitigation/reyes-v-lopez-grijalba/> Accessed 6/8/16.

Adrienne Aron is a psychologist, writer, & human rights worker in the San Francisco Bay Area.

School of the Americas Watch, continued

war in El Salvador, we decided, as a grassroots movement, to come to the aid of our brothers and sisters forced to flee their countries as a result of our continuing dirty wars across our borders, fueled by racist policies and so-called security concerns. Our "War on Drugs" has been a war on helpless populations; the people we trained with our tax dollars have now become the rogues, thieves and criminals, nay, the terrorists, who are now sowing mass destruction in our name.

As people of conscience, we must once again say "No más, no more." As we have done before for a quarter of a century, SOA Watch will shine its light on human rights violations occurring daily as a result of our imperial foreign policy. This year's vigil in Nogales, Arizona is our call to solidarity. It will continue our fight to close down the School of the Americas. As an interpreter, year after year, for victims of torture, I join in the demand for an end to state-sponsored terrorism and violence against our communities on both sides of the border. No more impunity, no more violence, no more sponsored atrocities in our name.

Join us! We are one América, to the North, the South, the East and the West.

Soft and hard coups and countercoups: *the politics of Empire.*

by Silvia Brandon-Pérez

For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind." Hosea 8:7

We have a nasty record of interventions throughout the world, soft coups in which we aid and abet right-wing forces in nations whose regimes we want to change, such as Chile under Salvador Allende or Honduras under Zelaya, harder coups in which we send in troops under the ostensible reason of protecting our 'interests,' by which one may always read economic vested interests, such as in the Dominican Republic during the countercoup against democratically elected President Juan Bosch, or Venezuela, when Hugo Chavez was first elected to the presidency of that nation. This is happening through our ongoing sponsorship of Israel's repression in Palestine.

A young senator John F. Kennedy in 1957 gave a speech for the right of Arab self-governance and an end to our meddling in Arab countries. Franklin D. Roosevelt had urged allied leaders to sign the Atlantic Charter in 1941, a formal pledge that all former European colonies would have the right to self-determination following World War II. This, however, was one more idealistic road not taken. CIA coup plots in numerous countries, including Jordan, Syria, Iran, Iraq and Egypt continued, leading to heartfelt and virulent sentiment against the United States.

In these days of rampant U.S. hostility against Iran, we should not forget our help in orchestrating a coup in that nation against democratically elected President Mohammed Mosaddegh, after Mosaddegh attempted to renegotiate the terms of Iran's contracts with the British Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (now BP). Mosaddegh was the first elected leader in Iran's 4,000-year history; Truman had forbidden the CIA from joining the fun and games, but when Eisenhower came to power in 1953, the CIA's John Foster Dulles unleashed "Operation Ajax" and Mosaddegh was ousted. After we installed the Shah (Reza Pahlavi), we sent in CIA trainers (such as the ones who work at the School of the Americas) to help the Iranians learn the newest counter-insurgency and interrogation techniques. Two decades of brutality, fully sponsored by the CIA and by our tax dollars, finally led to the 1979 Islamic revolution.

"The emergence of Hezbollah in Lebanon, the moral forces provided to Shia forces in Iraq, the regional cold war against Saudi Arabia and Israel, lending an Islamic flavour to the anti-imperialist, anti-American sentiment in the Middle East, and inadvertently widening the Sunni-Shia cleavage, are for me the most important by-products of the Iranian revolution," said Mehrzas Boroujerdi, professor of political science at Syracuse University, when asked for the top five geopolitical events set off by the Iranian revolution.

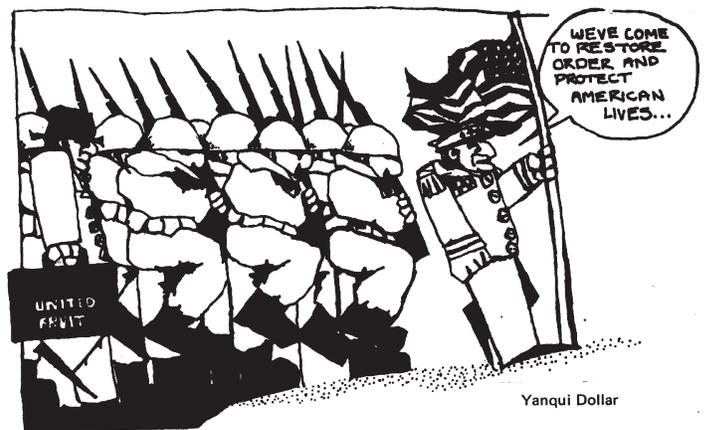
What Iran did "was give a lot of inspiration to the people on the streets for three decades before the Arab Spring started... because the Islamic Republic stood up to the United States and stood up to Israel, and doesn't shy away from expressing its views, over the years, on Saudi Arabia, on the Persian Gulf countries." Haleh Esfandiari, director of the Woodrow Wilson Middle East Program.

The animosity between Sunni and Shia is one more "unintended consequence" of our foreign policy. But we

do not learn from history. We come in with strong imperial boots and establish what the future will be like everywhere. This is how we destabilize, for our ends, countries beyond our borders, and create the seeds of violence against everyone everywhere. Our horror sounds hollow to them: did we not cause countless misery to their children, their elders, their women; did we not destroy their lands with countless bombings in the name of 'peace'?

Mosaddegh was elected by his people, just as Juan Bosch was elected in the Dominican Republic after decades of dictatorship which the U.S. actively sponsored, and Aristide was elected (twice) in Haiti after decades of dictatorship also actively sponsored with our tax dollars. A partial list of places where we have supported dictatorships, coups and drug lords is large, and it includes, from A to Z, Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Korea, Laos, Libya, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Panama, the Philippines, Syria, Uruguay, Vietnam, Yugoslavia, Zaire...

We claim moral authority when speaking about other nations, but it is nothing but an empty phrase. With the use of drone killings and attacks upon other countries' leaders, including the list that Obama, the Nobel Peace prize winner, uses to decide who gets to die that day, we have lost any right to complain that we might have ever had. Freedom fighters in other countries hate us because of years of untold misery, aggression and wholesale murder unleashed against their citizenry. For too long we have refused to let other nations rule themselves, particularly when they stood between us and our 'right' to valuable national resources such as oil. Today we are helping to destabilize all the countries south of us, including, once again, Venezuela, Ecuador, Brazil, and even El Salvador. We continue to design clandestine wars and to provide military aid to tyrants. We prefer puppet-governments that will let us do as we will. And when I say we, I am talking of course about the corporate masters, with their transnational flag. Our war is, of course, a holy war, but our God of choice is Mammon, or money, as exemplified by the Wall Street icon. We continue to work on the design of "free trade" treaties on behalf of the corporate masters, treaties that put the economic imperative of corporations even above national interests. And it is we, as the capital city of Empire, who determine who will be labeled a terrorist, and who is ripe for a coup.



Haiti's Election, continued from page 3

search, no cameras or cell phones allowed, no wandering around on your own, no going to the restroom unaccompanied—I kept wondering, what is it they're afraid of?

Our conversation with Mr. Gayle, while cordial and friendly on the surface, revealed the condescending and colonialist nature of the US government's attitude towards Haiti. His claim that Haitians have a poor history of participation in elections was refuted by one of our delegation members who had observed the 1995 and 2000 presidential elections in Haiti, both of which had gone smoothly with strong voter turnout and no major problems reported. He further suggested that "both sides" were to blame for cancellation of local and parliamentary elections between 2011 and 2015, and that there was cheating on "both sides" during the 2015 elections, when in fact outgoing president Martelly and his party were clearly responsible in both cases, with help from well-paid foreign political operatives.

Mr. Gayle stressed the urgency of having a stable elected government in order to reassure outside investors (no mention of reassuring the citizens that their votes were counted!). When asked why the US isn't more concerned with the integrity of the elections than a delay in seating the government, he paused and then denied electoral fraud was widespread or affected the ultimate outcome. His concluding remark, "When capabilities are so low and challenges are so great, where do you draw the line about how flawless the process has to be?" was indicative of the self-serving US policy of dismissing Haitian people's intelligence, skills and aspirations.

After the US Embassy visit, our next appointment with one of the 2015 presidential candidates offered a refreshing contrast. At the office of Dr. Maryse Narcisse of the Fanmi Lavalas party, we were warmly welcomed in an open air and relaxed atmosphere, where supporters from various communities were engaged in lively discussions. Dr. Narcisse told us how all of the candidates and parties except a few associated with Martelly had come to consensus on heeding the people's demands and proposing a framework for a verification commission to do an in-depth and transparent evaluation of the 2015 elections. She said her party is not afraid of the results because people were fed up with the 2010-11 elections and insist on free and fair elections this time. She pointed out that while the current Provisional President has little power, he can appoint the verification commission and take steps quickly to assure a fairly and justly elected government is in place, which could then tackle the broader social and economic issues the country faces.

As a US-based delegation, our message to Mr. Gayle of the US Embassy in person and to the US State Department in a press conference we held in Port-au-Prince was to stop pressuring Haitians to accept a seriously flawed electoral process and respect Haiti's sovereignty in rectifying the situation.

The day after we left Haiti, on April 28, we were pleased to learn that Provisional President Privert did in fact convene the election verification commission as proposed by the group of parties and candidates, giving it 30 days to complete its investigation.

On May 30, the verification commission, which conducted its investigation with observers from various parties, reported that over 90% of the precincts sampled showed

The New McCarthyism, continued from page 1

ments in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, to the stealing of Palestinian aquifers, the practice of collective punishment, the endless checkpoints and restrictions on Palestinian travel, the list is very long. And all the while our government continues to donate billions of dollars and advanced weapons in ever increasing amounts to a country that ignores human rights and International Law.

Then when Palestinian civil society requests the support of people of conscience all over the world through non-violent BDS, in order to call Israel to abide by International Law, we see the rise of this new McCarthyism striving to blacklist and punish those who answer the call of conscience.



We urge our readers to contact their Assembly person and State Senator asking them to oppose AB2844.

Haiti's Election, continued

unacceptable evidence of fraud and tampering, and it recommended the October 25, 2015 presidential election be annulled. Despite objections from the US and European Union, the current Haitian Election Council followed this recommendation and October 6, 2016 has been set for new presidential elections. It is a significant victory that people have succeeded so far in preventing a major election from being rigged.

Meanwhile people continue to protest the August 15 parliamentary elections, which had been widely reported to be even more problematic, but haven't yet been mandated for in depth investigation. Haitians are relentlessly demanding that their votes be counted.



*Image of Haitian maroon revolutionary
"The spirit of the Haitian people will never break."*

**Marilyn Langlois,
Haiti Action Committee, www.haitisolidarity.net,
19 June, 2016**

Haiti photos by Marilyn Langlois



"Disarm Now" **Action August 9 at Livermore Lab**

On Tuesday, August 9 at 8 AM, please join the Ecumenical Peace Institute, Livermore Conversion Project and other peace, justice and environmental groups for a major rally and nonviolent direct action at the Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab.

Exactly 71 years after the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb on the people of Nagasaki, we will gather at the place where scientists are currently developing new and "modified" nuclear weapons. We will stand with Japanese Hibakusha (A-bomb survivors), Pacific Islanders, where the U.S. detonated more than 60 nuclear tests, and others impacted by deadly nuclear technology to proclaim, "Never Again! No Nukes!"

The theme this year is "Disarm Now: We Stand with Nuclear Survivors for Global Justice." We will gather at the northwest corner of the Lab (Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road in Livermore).

Tony deBrum, our keynote speaker and former foreign minister of the Marshall Islands, will discuss the U.S. nuclear bomb tests detonated there and the current, courageous "Nuclear Zero" lawsuits against the U.S. and 8 other nuclear weapons states for their failure to disarm. Tony deBrum also serves his country as special envoy on climate change. Rev. Nobuaki Hanaoka, a Nagasaki A-bomb survivor, will share his experience and insights. Speakers, music and drummers will be followed by a short march to the West Gate for a Japanese Bon dance and nonviolent direct action.

Carpools are encouraged and there will be plenty of free parking. A limited number of vanpools will be set up from the Dublin-Pleasanton BART Station. You must call in advance to

secure a seat on one of the vans. Phone Tri-Valley CARES at (925) 443-7148 or email marylia@trivalleycares.org. You will receive a confirmation. There will also be a Peace Camp the night before at the Del Valle Regional Park reservoir just 10 miles from Livermore. Contact scott@trivalleycares.org to RSVP for the Peace Camp.

We hope you can join us! A flier with nonviolence guidelines and additional information is available at www.trivalleycares.org.



Model of Long Range Stand Off missile at the Good Friday Witness, 2016. Photo by Christina Tworek

Peace Lantern Ceremony **August 6, Berkeley Aquatic Park**

The Fifteenth annual peace lantern ceremony will be held Saturday, August 6, 2016 6:30 - 9:00 PM at the north end of Aquatic Park, Berkeley, which is at the west end of Addison St., 2 blocks west of Sixth St., 1 block south of University Ave.

August 6th and 9th are the 71st anniversaries of the world's first atomic bombings. In Japan and around the world, people will gather in early August to float lanterns in remembrance of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, all victims of war, and all who have gone before us. This moving and beautiful tradition provides a chance to reaffirm our commitment to building a better future.

The program begins at 6:30 with the decoration of shades for floating peace lanterns, followed by music by Heiwa Taiko and the reading of messages from the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

From 8:00 - 9:00 will be the Floating of the Lanterns.

For more information visit <http://peacelanterns.org/>
It is recommended that you dress in warm layers.



Helen Caldicott: "Nuclear Weapons: Can They Be Abolished?"

Saturday, August 13, 2:00 PM San Francisco Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin St. at Grove (free)

Forty-eight years after the United States and other powers signed a treaty pledging negotiations for nuclear disarmament, the Obama administration is pursuing a massive program to develop new bombs and warheads, many with new military capabilities. Consider that the next president may be even less of a peace-lover than the present one.

In that context, Dr. Helen Caldicott, one of the world's foremost anti-nuclear activists, will tell a San Francisco audience whether such disarmament is yet achievable. "Nuclear Weapons: Can They Be Abolished?" Her appearance is jointly sponsored by the library's Business, Science and Technology Dept. and a new Coalition for Nuclear Disarmament. The latter comprises various pro-peace groups, including the War and Law League (WALL), which initiated the event as its biennial meeting. For more details see <http://www.warandlaw.org/files/index.html>

Summer 2016 edition of EPI's quarterly newsletter

I/We want to be part of the Peace and Justice work of Ecumenical Peace Institute/CALC by:

- volunteering (mailings, vigils, publicity, calling)
- connecting EPI with my religious group
- making a tax-deductible contribution:
- \$35 annual membership (\$10 low-income subscription)
- \$10.00 \$25.00 \$35.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 (other)

I will pledge \$_____ monthly, \$_____ quarterly

Please make checks payable to E.P.I.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

- You are invited to read *Planted by the Waters*
- online at <http://www.epicalc.org/>
- Upcoming events which EPI is involved in
- planning will be found at the website.
- ==>>If you want email notification of events,
- send us your address. Write to epicalc@gmail.com.

Regarding that Envelope

There is an envelope included in each issue of *Planted by the Waters*. If each person who receives *Planted* puts a check into the envelope and mails it to EPI/CALC, it will greatly improve our ability to do the work for justice and peace which we are called to do together. It doesn't have to be a lot. Every little bit counts.



Ecumenical Peace Institute
of Northern California
P.O. Box 9334
Berkeley, CA 94709

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Berkeley, CA
Permit No. 1463

Address Service Requested

Calendar & Announcements

Saturday, August 6, Peace Lantern Ceremony, Berkeley Aquatic Park. See Page 11 for details.

Tuesday, August 9, Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day remembrance & action at Livermore Lab. See Page 11 for details.

Saturday, August 13, Helen Caldecott at War & Law League event in San Francisco. See Page 11 for details.

Sunday, October 23, East Bay Sanctuary Covenant annual dinner, St John's Presbyterian Church, Berkeley

SAVE THE DATE: EPI Fall Gathering, Sunday, Nov 13.
No matter who is elected we will discuss *Where Do We Go From Here?*

Inside:

1. Empire & the Cross: Report Good Friday at Livermore
1. The New McCarthyism
3. Seven Days In Sunny Honduras
3. Haiti/Election
8. School of the Americas Watch
9. Soft & Hard Coups & Countercoups
11. August demonstrations: Peace Lantern, Livermore, Helen Caldecott in SF

Correction: Spring 2016 issue, p.1 "Remembering David McPhail": "GRIP" refers to Greater Richmond Interfaith Program, which maintains a homeless shelter in Richmond, and other services. See <http://www.gripcommunity.org/>

Actions

Living Graveyard and Reading of the Names, noon to one on 3rd Mondays, Oakland Federal Building, 1301 Clay Street, two blocks from 12th Street BART.

Covered with sheets to represent the dead of the wars of occupation in Afghanistan and Iraq, some of the participants lie down on the city sidewalk in front of the Federal Building. The names of Californians in the U.S. military who have died in Iraq or Afghanistan & the names of some of the Iraqi dead are read. Other participants hand out informational, action-oriented flyers.

This is legal, non-violent witness. People stop, look and think. Please bring a white sheet to cover yourself with. A pad to lie on is recommended. The designated Monday may be changed due to federal holidays and other factors. Please check EPI website for changes. www.epicalc.org.

==>>**No July Living Graveyard**

Ongoing Vigils

Thursdays, 4:30 - 5:30, Five Flags Park, Foothill, Jackson & Mission, Hayward. Justice for Palestinians. South Alameda County Peace and Justice (SAPJC) & Tri-City Peace and Justice (TCP).

Fridays, 12:00 - 1:00, Telegraph & Bancroft, Berkeley Women in Black, for justice and peace in Palestine.

First Saturday of each month, 11:00, West County Detention Center, 5555 Giant Highway, Richmond. Witness & vigil to oppose ongoing imprisonment of ICE detainees.