**Peace Action Wisconsin** 1001 E. Keefe Ave.

Milwaukee, WI 53212

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DATED MATERIAL

## **Lanterns for Peace**

Annual commemoration of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Sunday, August 6 | 6 PM to 9 PM Lincoln Park Picnic Areas 3 and 4

Go northwest from Lincoln Park Pavilion at 1301 W Hampton Ave on Milwaukee River Parkway 6 PM - Japanese Lantern-making

7 PM - Music by Frogwater with John and Susan Nicholson

7:30 PM - Commemorative Program

- Reflections on the Atomic Bombings by Julie Enslow, co-founder of Peace Action WI
- Tribute to Dan Ellsberg by Pam Richard of Peace Action of WI
- Music by Glenn Asch (of the Milwaukee Symphony) and Laurie Asch
- The Golden Rule Peace Sailboat by Mark Foreman, MKE Veterans for Peace.

8:15 PM - Floating of Traditional Japanese Lanterns on the Milwaukee River. We'll send our Lanterns out at the same time as the Madison Lanterns for Peace Ceremony.

Sponsored by Peace Action of WI, 414-269-9525. Contact: pamrichard35@gmail.com Co-sponsored by MKE End the Wars Coalition and the United Nations Association of Milwaukee Special thanks to Annette J. Roberts and Joan R. Robertson Fund for World Peace. World Law and Peace Education.



July-August 2023 Vol. 46 #3

## A NEW COLD WAR WITH CHINA? A POSSIBLE HOT WAR? OVER TAIWAN? WHY?

by Harry Targ

Obama had his "Asian pivot," and Trump his "China Virus." US Rep. Mike Gallagher has formed the House select committee on the Chinese Communist Party while President Biden boosts arms shipments to the "Quad" of US allies. It seems Americans are being primed for another war—this time against China. What is going on here ... and there?

Many analysts claim that the power of the United States compared to China is declining - regarding economic growth, scientific and technological developments, productivity, and trade.

University of Wisconsin historian Arthur McCoy<sup>1</sup> and others warn that the United States is attempting to overcome its declining relative economic hegemony by increasing investment in military advances: a space force, a new generation of nuclear weapons, cyber security, biometrics, and maintaining or enhancing a global military presence, particularly in the Pacific.

In addition, the United States continues to promote regime change around the world through brutal economic sanctions, such as in Venezuela, Cuba, Iran and 36 other countries. China, to the contrary, is increasing its economic ties to these countries through investments, trade, and assistance. Generally, Chinese policy stands with most countries in the Global South while the United States seeks to control developments there.

To generate support for the US's growing hostility to China, policymakers in Washington in both the Trump and Biden administrations have raised the specter of a new "red menace," drawing upon the long history of anti-Asian racism, white supremacy, and American Exceptionalism.

Perhaps the greatest danger of war involves Taiwan.

Taiwan is an island 100 miles from the mainland of China. It has been occupied since 1949 by the anti-communist forces of Chiang Kai-Shek and his descendants. It has long been allied with the United States. But the island is also claimed by the Chinese government in Beijing as part of China (which it was before Japanese imperialists occupied it in 1895.) Since 1979 a "One China Principle" has been accepted by both China and the United States. This is a policy designed to postpone any direct conflict between the United States and China over Taiwan, a policy many Taiwanese citizens prefer.

However, recently Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan and the president of Taiwan came to the United States. President Biden has made statements threatening China over Taiwan. The US maintains extensive military bases in the South China Sea and elsewhere near the mainland<sup>2</sup>. Many fear that the US, mimicking its escalation of militarism in support of Ukraine, is using increased support of Taiwanese independence to reduce Chinese influence in the world.

In addition, Taiwan manufacturers produce sixty percent of the world's semiconductors and Taiwan is among the top ten commercial partners of the United States. A reintegration of Taiwan with the mainland would further challenge the United States as the world's dominant power.

Each of these elements of the US/Chinese relationship increase the danger of world war between the United States and China. The peace movement must say "No" to a new Cold War with China and declare that the US should accept the idea of a multipolar world.

<sup>1</sup> See Alfred W. McCoy, In the Shadows of the American Century: The Rise and decline of US Global Power, Haymarket Books, 2017

<sup>2</sup> https://solidarity.net.au/highlights/us-bases-positioned-war-china/

### **Hiroshima Poem by Nazin Hikmet**

... inspired by two-year-old Sadako Sasaki who survived the blast only to die of cancer 10 years later. Hikmet's words should be a warning even now to Biden for laughing at the possibility of renewed military conflict against China.

I come and stand at every door But none can hear my silent tread I knock and yet remain unseen For I am dead for I am dead.

I'm only seven though I died In Hiroshima long ago I'm seven now as I was then When children die they do not grow.

My hair was scorched by swirling flame My eyes grew dim my eyes grew blind Death came and turned my bones to dust And that was scattered by the wind.

I need no fruit I need no rice I need no sweets nor even bread I ask for nothing for myself For I am dead for I am dead.

All that I need is that for peace You fight today you fight today So that the children of this world Can live and grow and laugh and play.

# WI vs WW3



by Jess Devitt

WI vs WW3 is an anti-war organization created this year by Peace Action of Wisconsin-adjacent organizers as a means to reach out across ideological lines to amplify the anti-war voice locally and grow the peace movement. Inspired by the Rage Against the War Machine rally in Washington, DC in February, which was sponsored by both the People's Party and the Libertarian Party, we became partners with representatives from the local chapters of both organizations, as well as the End the Wars Coalition.

Initially, our group was called MKE vs WW3. Then, as we saw growing interest from peace-minded folks outside of Milwaukee, it became WI vs WW3; we have rallied at the capitol in Madison twice. In August we will rally in Chicago and are hopeful for an inspiring turnout from peace activists in the area. USA vs WW3, as it will now be called, hopes to create and exemplify a template for successful big tent, broad spectrum anti-war organizing, so others can make the same connections and put pressure on legislators in their area, as well as widening the social space for our message.

The message, directed at policymakers, is simple: stop funding war! The disastrous conflict in Ukraine, with hundreds of thousands of precious lives lost already, risks nuclear Armageddon, as the president has conceded. As the administration fuels this conflict, it is at the same time beating the drums for war with China. We welcome all to raise their voices with us in demanding a stop to this insanity.

Contact us to get involved at USAvsWW3@gmail.com

## Contact the White House and Members of Congress

To reach your representative and senators: Call the Congressional Switchboard at

202-224-3121.

Access www.congress.gov/members Send letters to First St SE, Washington, DC 20004

### **How to Call the White House:**

The Biden White House has very limited phone line hours. Call 1-202-456-1111 to be connected to the White House public comment line. Please note, you must call between the hours of 10am - 2pm CT, Tuesdays - Thursdays while the phone line is open. Send letters to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500

#### F35S ROAR INTO MADISON

by Chris Breihan

Despite years of efforts by the Safe Skies Clean Water Coalition (supported by Peace Action) to keep the F-35 out of Madison, in late April of this year the new fighter jets began taking up permanent residence at Truax Field. Over the next year, a total of 20 are expected to arrive.

The Air Force's own environmental impact study found that the F-35s will increase takeoffs from Truax by 27%, exposing area residents to average daily noise of 65 decibels or more — a level considered "incompatible" with residential use. Yet the affected area has over 1,000 households. In addition to noise, opponents predict other pollution which will particularly affect low-income residents and people of color who live nearby.

While the Madison Area Chamber of Commerce supports the F-35s coming to town, and Gov. Evers has stayed silent, Sen. Tammy Baldwin acknowledged the community concerns by announcing a grant by the Defense Dept. to conduct community outreach. Now that the planes are already here, residents will be invited to town halls where they can discuss their grievances and learn of noise mitigation possibilities. Baldwin claims that the F-35 is a "job creator." But according to the National Priorities Project, investment in peace can create many more jobs than investment in the destructive machinery of war.

## JOIN US / RENEW PEACE ACTION WISCONSIN

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New Member _	Renewal	
Name		
Address		
	StateZip	
hone		
\$30 individual	\$10 limited income	
\$50 household	\$100 supporter	
\$1000 lifetime membership		
Additional donation of	support \$	

Make checks out to Peace Action of Wisconsin 1001 E. Keefe Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53212 Call office for information on monthly sustainers.

If you are not receiving our *Peace Action Email Alerts* please email us your email address so you can keep in touch with current activities.

## THANK YOU TO OUR PEACE ACTION VOLUNTEERS

Moving help - Chris Breihan, Liz Richard, Paul Host, Laura Kukor Shea, Steve Shea, Tom Seery, Sue Cottrell, Ken Gass, Jim and Eldeen Carpenter, Trish Beausang, Marsha Vila

Special thanks to Mike Trokan and Brian Bunzel for painting our new offices and carrying many heavy boxes up the stairs to our storage space.

Hernia Movers did an excellent job.

Mail crew- Sue Cottrell, Marsha Vila, Eldeen Carpenter, Trish Beausang, John Payton, Roger Hansen, Tom Neibler, Joyce Ellwanger, David Lindberg, Babette Grunow, Tom Rodman Thanks to Brian Verdin for bringing your wonderful collection of peace and justice flags to our actions.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK FOR PEACE ACTION OF WISCONSIN

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## PEACE CALENDAR MAY 2023 - JUNE 2023

**July 3, Monday, 4:30 pm,** Celebrate Julian Assange's Birthday with a Banner Drop on the Brady Street Bridge overpass. We'll also be tabling on the Prospect side.

**July 4, Tuesday, 12 pm,** Red Arrow Park, Peoples Independence Day, Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression

July 19-23, Milwaukee Air & Water Show at the Lakefront.

**July 22, Saturday, noon,** Stand for Peace at Prospect & Brady. We'll bring protest signs to the overpass at the foot of Brady St for the Blue Angels Air Show after the Stand.

**July 22, Saturday,** Madison WI, Building Unity's Justice Summit. Contact Tim Cordon for more information, 608-630-3633

July 25, Tuesday, 6 pm, Mitchell Street Library, 906 W. Historic Mitchell St, "Healthcare for All, In Cuba & the US" Cuba Coalition potluck & film "Dare to Dream," a film about Cuba's tuition-free Latin American Medical School. Special guest Yunuen Cacique Borja, a current US student from Austin, Texas, studying at ELAM. Sponsored by WI Cuba Coalition www.wicuba.org.

**August 6, Sunday, 6pm- 9pm,** at Picnic Area 3 in Lincoln Park. Lanterns for Peace-Remember Hiroshima & Nagasaki. Speakers, lantern making, origami peace crane making, and music by Frogwater. Lantern floating ceremony at dusk. See ad on back page for details.

**August 12, Saturday, Noon- 5pm,** Center Street Daze. Volunteer to help with the Peace Action WI table, or come by to visit.

**August 18, Friday, 7pm,** Friday Freedom Films at Zao Church. War Made Easy by Norman Soloman.

Aug 20, Sunday, 10am-6pm, Jackson Park at 35th & Forest Home, Milwaukee. Red Magic Festival, A Celebration of Native American Art & Culture.

**August 25, Tuesday, 7 pm,** Friday Freedom Films at Zao Church. A Force More Powerful: how nonviolent movements have changed the world.

**August 26, Wednesday,** time and location TBA, Sheboygan, Veterans for Peace Sheboygan will host the Golden Rule Peace Boat

Sept 1-4, Save the Date for the Veterans for Peace Milwaukee visit by the Golden Rule peace boat at Lakeshore State Park, on the downtown lakefront between Discovery World and Milwaukee World Festival grounds. It will be open to the public for visits and tours.



### **EVERY SATURDAY, NOON - 1PM**

### JULY

July 1: Greenfield/National

July 8: KK/Lincoln

July 15: Sherman/North

July 22: Farwell/Brady

July 29: 92nd/North

#### AUGUST

August 5: Port Washington/Silver Spring

August 12: 27th/National August 19: 1st/Pittsburgh

(near the Colectivo ½ mile south of the Public Market)

August 26: King/North

# The Mobilizer Newsletter of Peace Action of Wisconsin

Published by Peace Action of Wisconsin, Inc., 2319 E Kenwood Blvd Milwaukee, WI 53211

#### The Mobilizer Committee:

Ann Batiza, Christy Breihan, Jim Carpenter, Babette Grunow, Pam Richard, and Harry Targ

#### **Peace Action of Wisconsin**

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Website: peaceactionwi.org
Facebook: facebook.com/peaceactionwi

End Military Intervention, Transfer Military Spending to Human Needs, Abolish Nuclear Weapons & Power. Oppose Racism & Sexism, Protect the Environment.

## **Peace Action Mourns Professor Ian Harris**

by Julie Enslow and Chris Breihan

Dr. Ian Harris passed away on May 15, 2023, in Walnut Creek, CA where he had been living in retirement since 2010. Ian was a professor at UWM and a member of Peace Action of Wisconsin. He established the Peace Studies Certificate Program at UWM and became a leading advocate for Peace Studies at the local, national and international levels.

Ian's first student in the UWM Peace Studies program was Jill Sternberg who served as an intern and staff person with Peace Action of Wisconsin. She said, "Ian was a significant mentor in my life. He

encouraged me to explore my passion for peace studies, particularly nonviolent activism."

Chris Breihan of Peace Action of Wisconsin was a student of Ian Harris at UWM. She reflected, "Prof. Harris did not accept detached analysis of violence as 'other



people's problems' from his Peace Education students. He insisted that we dig deep to discover our connections to the rest of humanity and our common wounded soul. Peace Education became not just a nice idea but a personal imperative in Ian's class."

Dr. Harris led a life of service at local and international levels. He helped found the Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies and the Peace Education Special Interest group of the American Educational Research Association. He led the Peace Education Commission (PEC) of the International Peace Research Association and helped develop the

Journal of Peace Education (Taylor & Francis) and the prestigious Peace Research Grant Program. He will be remembered as a leading researcher and innovator in Peace Education and missed as a warm-hearted member of the peace community.

# Message from Daniel Ellsberg to Peace Action of WI

April 24-30 was "Daniel Ellsberg Week" across the nation, and our Stand for Peace joined the celebration of Ellsberg's life's work as a whistle-blower and peacemaker by saluting him and demanding freedom for all journalists to uncover the truth and share it with the people.

Ellsberg, who exposed the The Pentagon Papers and published Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner in which he revealed the Pentagon's willingness to sacrifice the lives of hundreds of millions of people in a nuclear conflagration, died June 16, after only recently having revealed that his cancer was terminal.



Peace Action member Jim Carpenter thoughtfully shared this photo of our "Stand" with Ellsberg himself, and we are all honored to have received this message from him in return:

(Message from Daniel Ellsberg to Us)

Wow! The wetness (and cold? It looks it) makes this the most heartwarming tribute I've ever received!

I can hardly imagine anyone getting out of bed and going out in the rain with a hand-lettered sign to honor...me! (And Julian. Or almost anyone!)

The letters ran, but you didn't! We haven't.

You've made my week—and more! Thank you, my friends!

Love, Dan

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## ACTIVISTS



Our new home at ZAO MKE Community Church across from the UWM Union

## Peace Action of WI has Moved!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO MAKE THIS MOVE POSSIBLE!

ZAO MKE Community Church 2319 E Kenwood Blvd Milwaukee, WI 53211 Our office # is the same: 414-269-9525

ZAO MKE Church, once known as the United Methodist Church, is across the street from the UW-Milwaukee Union, between Farwell and Prospect Streets. Call us if you would like to visit. You can park in the parking lot. Just put a note that you're visiting Peace Action WI.

#### Mailing address:

P O Box 11126 • Shorewood, WI 53211 Contact for information:

Pam Richard pamrichard35@gmail.com



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The School Sisters of Notre Dame joined the Peace Action regulars in a stand for Peace near their home.

### STAND FOR PEACE WITH THE SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME

by Pam Richard

On May 20, 2023 the School Sisters of Notre Dame, led by Sister Paul Mary, came to the Stand for Peace at 92nd and Burleigh. Almost all of the sisters were in their nineties. They brought their aluminum chairs and held signs for an hour with us, quite close to their residence. We joined them in prayers for peace in Ukraine.

Come out when they join us again in September!

## IN ACTION!



Gail Walker explains how the blockade creates shortages in Cuba

## PASTORS FOR PEACE SUCCESSFUL CUBA FRIENDSHIPMENT EVENT AND FUNDRAISER

by Art Heitzer

Fifty people (plus others online) gathered on May 19 for a very successful benefit and send-off event featuring the Executive Director of Pastors for Peace/IFCO, Gail Walker. The Friendshipment Caravans, Walker explained, concretely show solidarity with the embargoed people of Cuba by sending badly needed medicines. Sponsored by the WI Cuba Coalition, a record \$15,000 in donations were raised. Some donated in response to beautiful Afro-Cuban art and books.

Dr. Alexandra Skeeter, one of Milwaukee's recent graduates of Cuba's tuition-free medical school and recently accepted into the Medical College of Wisconsin graduate school in Public Health, gave an inspiring talk.

Pastors For Peace was founded in response to a 1988 attack in Nicaragua by US-funded "contra" terrorists which killed two and wounded 29 people including Gail's father, the late Rev. Lucius Walker.

Gail Walker stressed how the US economic blockade also harms people in the US -- disproportionately people of color -- such as those with diabetes who are denied access to a highly effective Cuban medicine that could prevent 70% of the 100,000 diabetic amputations the US sees annually.

We also shared a pamphlet prepared by one of our members on Cuba's new Families Code, which will be the subject of an international webinar on June 29, at 7 PM. (see www.wicuba.org)

To see a video of our one-hour program, and how you can still make a tax-deductible donation, visit our website, www.wicuba.org.

#### REPORT ON DC LOBBYING DAYS

by Pam Richard

In April I spent a week in Washington, DC, with the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability's "DC Days," meeting with members of Congress and the Biden Administration. I joined 50 activists from nuclear weapons front-line communities around the country as a member of the Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment team. The Alliance includes anti-nuclear groups near the Hanford Site in WA, from Oakridge in TN, from Los Alamos Nuclear Laboratory, Idaho National Laboratory, Nevada Nuclear Security Site, Savannah River Site, and others.

We met with members of congressional committees relevant to nuclear weapons issues, including the Armed Services Committees, which authorize nuclear weapons programs, and those that fund the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA's) nuclear weapons programs. We also met with the Department of Energy's Environmental Management office, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, the NNSA, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

We asked that Congress cut the budget for new nuclear weapons and instead fund the skyrocketing (to over \$850 billion) costs of cleaning up radioactive and toxic waste from years of weapons production. Our most important funding asks were to stop costly and unsafe plutonium warhead production for the new ICBM Sentinel Missiles. Our efforts included briefing congressional staffers on the hazards of plutonium bomb core production.

We also asked them not to appropriate money for the Sea-Launched Cruise Missile and to retire the huge 1.2 megaton B-93, and we joined Native American and Black ANA members in our group to fight against environmental injustice.

We call for the US to ratify the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Read our new report, *Break the Cycle for a Safer Future* at

#### https://ananuclear.org/wp-content/uploads/ 2023/04/2023-DC-Days-Ask-Report.pdf

I am on the national board of the Alliance and will keep you updated on future developments.

Pam Richard staffs the new Peace Action office at ZAO MKE Community Church

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