

Free the Transform Now Plowshares Nuclear Weapons Protesters

Whereas Veterans for Peace's purpose includes increasing public awareness of the costs of war and working to eliminate nuclear weapons.

Whereas VFP recognizes the value of nonviolent civil disobedience as a necessary part of the struggle for justice and peace (2007 resolution).

Whereas VFP has called for ending the production of nuclear weapons, universal nuclear disarmament, and the complete abolition of nuclear weapons by the year 2020 (resolutions in 2003 and 2011)

Whereas three courageous nuclear weapons protesters, calling themselves Transform Now Plowshares, entered the Y-12 Highly-Enriched Uranium Manufacturing Facility in Oak Ridge, TN on July 28, 2012 to increase public awareness of the cost, immorality, and illegality under international law of the U.S nuclear weapons program, and to call for an end to production of nuclear weapons.

Whereas the three non-violent protestors, exercising their right to petition the government, have been convicted of sabotage and felony destruction of property facing 10-25 years in prison.

Whereas these charges, convictions, and penalties are excessive for the crimes actually committed and therefore unjust.

Whereas one of the protesters, Greg Boertje-Obed, is a member of Veterans for Peace Chapter 80

Therefore Be It Resolved that Veterans For Peace condemns the prosecution and conviction of these peaceful protesters.

Be it further resolved that Veterans for Peace will support and promote efforts to have these convictions overturned, reduced, commuted, pardoned and/or more lenient sentences imposed using petitions, letters to the judge, political pressure and all other appropriate means.

Be it further resolved that this effort will be a national project for Veterans for Peace.