

VETERANS FOR PEACE Monthly eNews



VFP eNews | August 2023

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Reflection & Action



"The Intrepid Air and Space Museum decided to throw itself a party on August 6, celebrating the anniversary of its commissioning (which is actually August 16). More than 30 NYC peace groups objected to the choice of August 6, the day when more than 200,000 Japanese civilians died in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, as a date to invite kids aboard to celebrate this massive war machine." --Ellen Davidson

[Above photo of the Veterans For Peace group by Ed Hedemann.]

SEE MORE PHOTOS of the Intrepid action by [Ed Hedemann](#), [Ellen Davidson](#), and [Linda Novenski](#)



[8.10.23 Veterans for Peace: No the Bomb Was Not Necessary, so why have them and what we risk.](#) Hosted by **The Hector Black Chapter on Soundcloud**

We start the show hearing and discussing clips from Professors Alperovitz and Ruane about why the evidence shows clearly that the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were not necessary. We then turn to the article written by William Hartung published in the *Peace and Planet News* about the movie *Oppenheimer*, Nuclear Industrial Complex, and public denial. We share clips (but not spoilers) from *Dr. Strangelove* and *Fail Safe* and also discuss the movies *Threads* and *The Day After*. We finish with a classic from Vera Lynn.

VFP National Convention is August 25-27



Register for the Convention

Sign Up to Read Poetry

Last Chance to Place an Ad

National Project Updates

The Golden Rule



The Progressive Magazine: "[Sailing the Seas of Conscience](#): The resilient voyage of the 'Golden Rule'" by Doug Bradley, July 31, 2023.

"From 1958 to today, the Golden Rule challenges the apathy and complacency that have settled over a world teetering on the brink of nuclear destruction. Its aim was—and is—not just to protest, but to awaken the slumbering collective conscience of humanity, to kindle a flame of awareness and resistance against the devastating potential of weapons of mass destruction."





It's the hottest summer ever recorded in human history, and the CCMP team is getting the word out about the link between warring and climate warming – #militarismfuelsclimatecrisis – and letting people know what we can do about it! Our NoMAS (No Military Air Shows) campaign is going strong. Our slideshow, in various iterations, has now been presented to 120 different audiences including VFP locals, civic, faith, environmental/climate, and college groups.

The 2023 VFP convention kicks off Friday, August 25 at 2pm Central Time with our session! **"Climate Crisis: Veterans Respond"** features VFP Advisory Board member Matthew Hoh, author and conversion expert Miriam Pemberton, former VFP Executive Director Woody Powell, plus music, poetry, and an inter-generational discussion.

We are planning a strong presence in the Anti-Militarism Hub at the September Climate March in NYC. It is expected to be huge.

Just Transition is a new CCMP initiative about the intersection of issues of climate crisis, workers and labor, environmental justice and militarism, reaching out to unions. Learn more at <https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/climatecrisis/just-transition>

For downloadable resources to take to your next in-person event and for videos and a list of curated books and articles, go to www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/climatecrisis. To schedule a slideshow or to send us your questions and comments, please email climate@veteransforpeace.org.

Visit CCMP Online



VFP's **Deported Veterans Advocacy Project (DVAP)** was so gratified when [H.R. 7946](#) passed in the House late last year, after 15 years of working to educate lawmakers about the plight of deported U.S. veterans. [Click here to watch a news report of that win.](#)

Passage of the bill in the House was a huge step forward, but as so often happens in Congress, the bill died in the Senate, so now we start all over in the 118th Congress. Re-introduced in the House as [H.R.4569 - Veteran Service Recognition Act of 2023](#) by Mark Takano (D-CA) on July 12, 2023, the bill must go back through the House and on to the Senate for passage before it may be signed into law by the President. Thanks in advance for contacting your Members of Congress to help get this bill passed into law in the 118th Congress! If you really want to have an impact, you can [download this ACLU Deported Veterans Tool Kit \[PDF\]](#).

DVAP is but a small collective of dedicated military veterans and activists and we depend on support from folks like you to help spread the word about our project within your "sphere of influence" and to help fund our ongoing efforts on behalf of U.S. deported veterans. We are grateful to the VFP community for all your past support and invite you to continue your support for the work that lies ahead.

Our strategic plan is to recruit 25 veterans to rotate in and out of D.C. in small teams that will include one repatriated veteran and one seasoned veteran activist who has experience doing this work. The first phase will commence October 15-26, 2023, and then continue on through March 31, 2024. The cost of this first phase legislative push is \$2,000 per veteran, or a total of \$50,000, to cover transportation to and from D.C., lodging, and food costs. Your generosity in the form of a small or large tax-deductible donation is greatly appreciated! Your donation to VFP is earmarked for the National Deported Veterans Advocacy Project when you give via our page (click the button below):

Visit DVAP Online



National Mobilization to End the Korean War



PBS News Hour (video):

[Capitol Hill Press Conference](#) [31 mins.]

Three Congresswomen – Barbara Lee, Judy Chu and Delia Ramirez – joined Lt. Gen Dan Leaf, Joy Gebhard for Divided Families and Rick Downes for Missing Families, and Christine Ahn speaking for peace on the Korean peninsula.

NBC News (article):

["70 years later, Koreans are still working to formally end the Korean War"](#) by Iris Kim, July 27, 2023.

Hawaii Public Radio | *The Conversation* by Stephanie Lan (audio):

["70 years after the Korean Armistice, hundreds gather to advocate peace"](#) July 31 [14:15 mins.]

Social Media Highlight

↻ Nina Turner Retweeted



Veterans For Peace @VFPNational · Jul 31



Over 4 million people have died in post-9/11 U.S. war zones. Over 38 million war refugees and displaced persons. And a U.S. federal price tag for the wars at over \$8 trillion.



💬 10

↻ 246

❤️ 803

📊 34.6K





A VFP tweet shared by Nina Turner has now reached over 30k people!

"Social Media, and specifically social media, is a vital tool for sharing our message and building our organization. We need your support and action! Make sure you have a social media account for all of our channels below. And be active! Every like, comment, and share of our posts gets our content 'in the algorithm,' meaning the platform will see the popularity of our content and push it out to more and more people in a snowball effect." –VFP Communications Coordinator Chris Smiley



Random Share from the Blogosphere



[“Clearing the Fog of ‘Unprovoked’ War”](#) op-ed by Edward Lozansky | Aug. 9, 2023

This piece was shared via email by Interim VFP Director Mike Ferner with the comment, *“Excellent!! Voice of Reason. Before we lost our heads. When sane adults worked together for the common good.”*

~ EXCERPT ~

"For the record: I was born in Ukraine, studied in Russia, and worked in America as a laser fusion researcher and Professor of Mathematics and Physics. I have relatives and friends in all three countries, and for the last 35 years, I have been trying to do my best to make them friends, partners, or even allies. Instead, all three are now at war....

"This looks like a total failure of my efforts, but I hope this short summary clears a bit of the fog of war, which might help in the search for avoiding a worst-case scenario." [READ MORE . . .](#)

Upcoming Events

August 10 – Agent Orange Awareness Day

August 25–27 – [Veterans For Peace 2023 Convention and Annual Business Meeting \(Aug. 26\)](#), online

September 21 – [U.N. International Day of Peace](#). 2023 theme: *Actions for Peace: Our Ambition for the #GlobalGoals*

September 22–24 – [World BEYOND War's annual global conference, #NoWar2023: Nonviolent Resistance to Militarism](#), online

October 15–19 – [SOVA Legislative Conference](#), Washington, D.C.

November 11 – [Armistice Day](#)

November 10–13 – [Merchants of Death War Crimes Tribunal](#), online, with live and pre-recorded testimony

December 10 – [Human Rights Day](#). 2023 theme: 2023 Theme: *Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All*. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

VFP Member Corner

**Communicate with other VFP members:
Subscribe to VFP-ALL Google group**

To subscribe, send an email to vfp-all+subscribe@googlegroups.com. Google will send you a confirmation email that you will need to respond to, to complete the subscription process. Subscribers must be respectful and adhere to VFP's Code of Conduct. You have the power to set your subscription in a way that minimizes the number of emails you receive, including an option to only peruse the list online.

WANTED: Vietnam Veterans to Share Radio Listening Experience

Roberta, a Ph.D. candidate at Kansas State University, is looking for Vietnam veterans interested in sharing their radio listening experience with me for my doctoral dissertation, which explores American radio in East Asia during the Cold War (1950s-70s). The two concluding chapters of her dissertation explore the uses and developments of radio at the intersection of the Vietnam War by looking at, respectively, AFVN radio broadcasting and the proliferation of pirate radios. Anyone who served in Vietnam, or East Asia in general, and used to listen to the radio at the time of their duty service would be extremely helpful to provide a better understanding of the role that U.S. radio played for Americans deployed in East Asia. If you are interested in participating in Roberta's research, email rmeloni@ksu.edu, or call/text her at 785-473-0087.

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