



VETERANS FOR PEACE Monthly eNews



VFP eNews | September 14, 2023

Climate Actions Happening Now!



San Diego Veterans For Peace, in collaboration with many other local pro-climate groups, are asking the U.S. Marines to stop the Blue Angels from flying over San Diego in September. These air shows are an egregious waste of fossil

fuel and only contribute to the climate crisis. The Department of Defense and the U.S. military has long ago identified the climate crisis as our biggest national threat, so we demand that the Marines get on board with that fact and cancel the September show.

The PRESS and the PUBLIC have been invited to join Chapter 91 members in two nonviolent demonstrations. If you are in the SoCal region, please join us:

**TODAY! THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 • 4–6 PM PDT
on the Carroll Canyon overpass above the I-15**

**TOMORROW! FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 • 4–6 PM PDT
on the 6th Avenue overpass above the I-5 downtown**

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Veterans For Peace, the VFP Climate Crisis & Militarism Project, and the VFP Washington, DC, Chapter are all partner organizations in the **March to End Fossil Fuels New York City**, where our members will be participating in the Anti-Militarism Hub. If you are in the greater NYC area, please join us:

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 • 1–4:30 PM EDT
Gather at Noon on Broadway between 54th & 57th Streets**

More details at www.endfossilfuels.us

Action Alert



The Ukrainian peace activist who spoke at the VFP convention needs our help! Yurii Sheliashenko, PhD, is a Member of the Board of Directors of World BEYOND War. He is based in Ukraine.

See below from our colleagues at World BEYOND War to find out more. Then please **sign the petition** and forward to friends.

From World BEYOND War: We've just learned that the office of the prosecutor and the "security service" of Ukraine have published press releases claiming to have put a stop to the activities of the "vicious Russian propagandist Yurii Sheliuzhenko."

Yurii Sheliuzhenko has been formally charged by the Ukrainian government with the crime of justifying Russian aggression. The evidence is this statement which explicitly condemns Russian aggression.

Next week, Yurii will face prosecution in Kyiv, and members of World BEYOND War will be there to deliver a petition — **please sign it now!** — asking that the prosecution be dropped. If you can get to Kyiv next week and support Yurii, please contact us.

The VFP Flag Superpower



One of the strategies employed by VFP Chapter of the Year Kansas City #097 in building their chapter was to issue each of their members their own Veterans For Peace flag.

Displaying a VFP flag in public is one simple but potentially powerful action veterans can take. The stark black-and-white logo flag is eye-catching and our name itself makes a strong statement: "Veterans For Peace." It makes people think.

VFP flags flown respectfully at events organized by other peace and justice groups can help build familiarity and trust while showing solidarity with allies. And a mess of flags grouped together can make a pretty, impactful picture.

Flags and other VFP-branded goods are available at the [VFP Store](#).

Resist War with China before It Starts

Get active with the Veterans For Peace China Working Group. Contact information and a link to the group's YouTube channel with many informative presentations can be found [HERE](#).

VFP Adviser Marjorie Cohn explains how U.S. actions are intensifying the danger of nuclear war in the Asia-Pacific in **["The U.S. Is Fanning the Flames of War With China"](#)** published on *Truthout*, August 31, 2023.

Caitlin Johnstone's piece featured in the September 13 issue of *Caitlin's Newsletter* just about says it all: **["The U.S. Air Force Is Clearing Out Jungles In The Pacific To Prepare For War With China"](#)**



In John Pilger's documentary, **[The Coming War on China](#)** (2020), he interviews Eric Li, a Shanghai entrepreneur educated at UC Berkeley and Stanford University. The following partial transcript of Li's remarks illuminates a huge difference between our two nations.

"China is...a vibrant market economy, but it is not a capitalist country. Here's why. There's no way a group of billionaires could control the Politburo as billionaires control American policy making.

*"So in China...**capital does not rise above political authority. Capital does not have enshrined rights.***

"In America, the interests of capital and capital itself have risen above the American nation. The political authority cannot check the power of capital and that's why America is a capitalist country but China is not."

The Gainesville 8



In July of 1972, 23 members and supporters of VVAW were subpoenaed to a Grand Jury in Florida and 8 were charged with conspiracy to disrupt the 1972 Democratic convention. Fifty years ago last month, the "Gainesville 8" were found not guilty of conspiracy. [Here is a report with photos of their 50th anniversary reunion.](#)

FALL CALENDAR



The *Golden Rule* at Montrose Harbor in Chicago

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 • 7 pm Eastern, 6 pm Central, 5 pm Mountain, 4 pm Pacific, 1 pm Hawaii

Celebrate the *Golden Rule's* Completion of the "Great Loop" in Chicago!

This is a "hybrid" event, both in-person at the headquarters of the Nuclear Energy Information Service, and [online via Zoom](#). Please join us if you can. There are many other events happening while the peace boat is docked in Chicago, and an October homecoming event is also planned for October 8 in Humboldt Bay. Please see the Golden Rule website, vfpgoldenrule.org for the full schedule of upcoming events.

SEPTEMBER 21 • International Day of Peace

This year's theme: **Actions for Peace: Our Ambition for the #GlobalGoals**

[RELATED: **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**, the Portland, Oregon, chapter of the Resist US-Led War Movement hosts a Zoom event on "The UN's False Solutions for Peace and the Peoples' Alternative" at 6:30 pm PDT. [INFO & REGISTER HERE](#)]

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 • 8–9:30 am EDT

Northern Michigan Veterans For Peace Chapter 50 is celebrating with a sunrise ceremony followed by the dedication of a Peace Pole. [EVENT INFO HERE](#).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 • 6–8 pm PDT

18th Annual International Day of Peace Awards Ceremony cosponsored by the **Jon Castro VFP Chapter** at Miracle Springs Resort, 10625 Palm Drive, Desert Hot Springs, California. VFP Deported Veterans Advocacy Project representatives Robert Vivar and Jan Ruhman are on the program.

Email Tom Swann for info: tomswannhernandez@earthlink.net

SEPTEMBER 22–24

World BEYOND War #NoWar2023 Conference:
Nonviolent Resistance to Military

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

SEPTEMBER 24–30

Defuse Nuclear War Week of Action

www.defusenuclearwar.org

VFP is a member of the Defuse Nuclear War coalition.

SEPTEMBER 27 • 6:30-7:30 EDT

"Healing the Harms of Nuclear Testing"

A conversation hosted by Friends National Committee on Legislation exploring the impact of nuclear testing and the call to advocate with communities that still bear the scars of our country's nuclear history. Speakers include Tina Cordova, co-founder of the Tularosa Basin Downwinders' Consortium, a friend of VFP Santa Fe Chapter 55.

[MORE INFO HERE](#)

SEPTEMBER 30–OCTOBER 8

Global Days of Action for Peace In Ukraine

www.peaceinukraine.org

Veterans For Peace is a co-sponsor.

OCTOBER 7–14

International Keep Space for Peace Week

[space4peace.org#095294](https://space4peace.org/#095294)

Each year the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space holds Keep Space for Peace Week in early October. This year our theme is the dangers of crowded orbits.

OCTOBER 15–19

SOVA Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.

Join the SOVA National Campaign in Washington D.C. to advocate Congress to help us Save Our VA.

[READ MORE AND REGISTER](#)

OCTOBER 22 • 1–3 PM PDT

Daniel Ellsberg's Celebration of Life

To be held on Zoom

Email the family for info: contact.ellsberg@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 11: Armistice Day

Check out our [2022 Armistice Day Recap](#) to see the variety of ways our members have celebrated Armistice Day (a.k.a. Veterans Day).

NOVEMBER 12 • 8 PM EST

Merchants of Death War Crimes Tribunal

Livestreamed Opening Session

The Merchants of Death War Crimes Tribunal will hold accountable — through testimony of witnesses — U.S. weapons manufacturers who knowingly produce and sell products which attack and kill not only combatants but non-combatants as well. These manufacturers may have committed Crimes Against Humanity as well as violated U.S. Federal criminal laws. The Tribunal will hear the evidence and render a verdict.

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

FOR VFP MEMBERS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 • 6 pm ET, 5 pm CT, 4 pm MT, 3 pm PT

[Climate Crisis and Militarism Project meeting \(online\)](#)

Open to all VFP members. Email climate@veteransforpeace.org for the zoom link.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 • Time TBA

VFP Board Candidates Forum (online)

There are 4 open board seats – 1 of them the new associate member seat – and a number of candidates running for the board. All current members will receive an electronic ballot and have a chance to vote on resolutions as well as board members. More details coming soon.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the bios of our 2024 VFP Board Candidates.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

Deadline for submitting VFP Chapter Reports to be published in the fall edition of the national VFP newsletter.

Please email chapter reports and photos to: editor@veteransforpeace.org.

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VFP
3407 S. Jefferson Ave, #219
St Louis, MO 63118
United States

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