



Desert Voices

The Newsletter of Nevada Desert Experience • Volume 19, Number 2 • June 2006
ISSN 1539-9869

The People versus Infernal Strake

Large Coalition Unites to Halt Above-ground Chemical Detonation at the Nevada Test Site

by Will Parrish

From May 27-28, they camped by the dozens. Nearly 200 people gathered outside of the Nevada Test Site, located in the occupied Western Shoshone Nation, for a weekend of workshops, ceremonies, rituals, a peace camp, and a rally and march to the Test Site main gate.

The “Stop the Strake!” gathering, called for by Western Shoshone spiritual leader Corbin Harney, was originally conceived as a demonstration against the US federal government’s planned “Divine” Strake - a 700-ton nuclear weapon simulation bombing of Shoshone land, using Ammonium Nitrate and Fuel Oil. It turned into a victory celebration on the morning of the 27th, when the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) announced that the test was “indefinitely postponed.”

Remarkably, the gathering was cobbled together by the organizations involved—Shundahai Network, the Western Shoshone Defense Project, Citizen Alert, Nevada Desert Experience, and others—within perhaps less than a month. I personally only decided to make the trek out to Nevada, from my hometown of Santa Barbara, on Thursday, May 25. I arrived at the Amtrak station the following day just minutes before the departure of the train on which my trip depended. A sense of rushed anxiety, which no doubt characterized the event for many of those involved, was very much alive inside of me for most of the trip.

Upon arriving at the Peace Camp outside of the Test Site, located about 60 miles northwest of Las Vegas, the anxiety turned into a mixture of excitement, determination, and joy—in short, a sense of community. Shortly after arriving, I was given a pink “Lovarchy” (love and anarchy, or the Rule of Love) t-shirt by Marcus Page, a member of the NDE board, whose “affinity group” I joined, not in part because it also included my good friend Chelsea Collonge and other



Protesters march to the Test Site gates, holding the Western Shoshone flag as a proclamation of their stewardship rights to the land.

From left to right: Peter Bergel of American Peace Test and Oregon Peace-works, Jim Goldtooth of Indigenous Environmental Network, Jimbo Simmons of International Indian Treaty Council, and Johnnie Bobb of the Western Shoshone National Council and new NDE board member.

NDE members.

The gathering was an interesting mix of veteran Test Site opponents and first-timers—I was in the latter category. Not surprisingly, even the vast majority of the first-timers, myself included, are already committed activists. I only met a small handful of people the entire weekend who aren’t already strongly involved in nuclear disarmament or a related cause. The people hailed from all parts of the western United States, including Nevada, Utah, Arizona, California, Oregon, and New Mexico.

There hasn’t been any kind of mass protest movement at the Test Site since the late-’80s, though NDE, Shundahai Network, and the Western Shoshone Defense Project maintain consistent opposition on a smaller scale. Citizen Alert has been strongly involved in the effort to prevent the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste depository from being sited on the Western Shoshone’s land. Corbin Harney in particular devoted many of his remarks at the gathering to reviewing the impressive history of activism at the Test Site, including recalling his 1987 global speaking tour to bring awareness

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Allured into the Desert

by Amy Schultz

That is why I will lure her into the desert and there I will speak to her heart. And I will make a covenant with the birds of heaven and the creeping things of the earth. I will remove all weapons of war from the land, all swords and bows, and will let my people live in peace and security. (Hosea 2:14, 18)

Occasionally, it rains in the Nevada Mojave desert. When the water and earth meet, the result is a warm and dusty pungency. The creosote bushes exude an aroma that is now a part of me.

As I leave my position as an NDE employee, I am very aware of all that I carry with me – what has become part of me. These last

few years have been a gift, full of personal and organizational challenges and movements of the Spirit. With these experiences, I carry all the relationships. From my interactions with the Nye County Sheriffs to my co-workers to the stones and cacti of the desert, I have felt connection. The desert has spoken tenderly to me through her human hands and mouths. I have been fed, sheltered, educated, loved and blessed by these connections. I also carry with me a deeper conviction for a nuclear-free world and acknowledge that without dialogue and reconciliation, there is no non-violence.

And I can utter no words to the desert, so sacred and desecrated, and to all of you, but thank you! Thank you for supporting me, walking by the line with me and believing in the work that we do – work that has made a movement and transformed so many hearts. Thank you for striving for a land free of swords and bows, so that we all may live with peace and security.

Amy Schultz has served as NDE's director and youth coordinator for the last three years. She and her fiancé, Patrick Finn, who has also worked for NDE this past year, will move to Florida at the end of the summer. They are moving to be closer to Amy's family and hope to continue work in ministry for social justice. And yes, they know all about alligators, elections and hurricanes.

Chelsea Collonge and Sr. Megan Rice, SHCJ will continue to serve NDE with help from Mario P. Intino Jr. and Gary Cavalier. We will miss Amy and Patrick very much!

NDE Board Welcomes New Members, New Visions

We are lucky to welcome Dr. Bonnie Bobb of the Corporation of Newe Sogobia, Johnnie Bobb of the Western Shoshone National Council, Karin Holsinger, graduate of the Franciscan School of Theology who works for the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, and Peggy Maze Johnson of Citizen Alert. We are also happy to have back Chris Montezano of the Catholic Worker Farm in Sheep Ranch, CA.

During our April 27th board meeting we brainstormed gifts that each of us brings to NDE as an organization, along with visions for NDE as a movement. Megan summarized our dreams for NDE's future into a five-pointed star:

- * More collaboration with movements focused on eliminating nuclearism and other forms of violence, sharing our gifts, experience and expertise
- * Bringing more people to the Test Site for education and nonviolent action, both the "40,000" requested by Corbin Harney, Western Shoshone spiritual leader, and the small groups of student immersion trips and local gatherings
- * More communication, for example through creative use of the NDE website, legislative action or letter-writing, and bold, respectful interpersonal dialogue
- * Continuing to develop the skills of Nonviolent Communication and bringing that philosophy into our events
- * More sustainability in our resources, so we can expand our work



NEW ADDRESS

NDE's Las Vegas office remains in the St. Francis House community, but we **have closed our Bay Area office.** Please direct calls to our Las Vegas office and mail to our **new address.**

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1420 West Bartlett Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89106-2226
(702) 646-4814

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

You can use our new email address: info@nevadadesertexperience.org to reach either of our offices.

Finally, please check out the updates to our website, including online donating and pictures from our events. It is a great tool for introducing others to NDE, so please share far and wide!

www.nevadadesertexperience.org

A New Page in our Commitment to Dialogue in the Nuclear Age

25th Anniversary Event Facilitated Deep Listening Between Different Experiences of Weapons Testing

by Chelsea Collonge

From March 30 to April 2, 2006, we brought together people whose lives and hearts have been affected by the nuclear weapons establishment in very different ways in an event called "Speaking from the Heart: Testimony and Healing in the Desert." Participants of our inner circle included a survivor of the Hiroshima atomic bomb; a former Manager for Test and Operations at the Department of Energy; a resident of St. George, Utah who lost her daughter and sister to cancer from living "downwind" of the Nevada Test Site; a Jesuit priest and ploughshares activist; a former director of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and US delegate to the Strategic Arms Limitations Talks with the Soviet Union; a co-founder of Nevada Desert Experience; and the daughter of a Test Site worker.

Facilitated by Fred Sly and other Nonviolent Communication trainers, these incredible human beings were given time to share their stories and deeply listen to each other, while 50 members of the NDE community compassionately held the space in the silent outer circle.

Participants learned a great deal from the event, including "really listening to what others had to say and how they felt." "You suddenly let go of your tension and saw the other person's view, even if just for a moment— it was an intense, engaging, embracing moment, I doubt I'll ever forget it." "Learned so much about what NDE is all about." "That all people are important."

We are deeply grateful for all the participants in this event and the Spirit that graced this baby-step beginning with some profound moments of transformation. We are committed to continuing this work of dialogue by bringing the participants back together in more private, informal settings, and hopefully building toward another public event where this powerful

kind of encounter can be shared broadly. We will continue to think about and articulate the ways in which this healing work is appropriate even before the achievement of nuclear abolition, as a way of creating space for deeper understanding of nuclearism and powerful unexpected partnerships.

This Lenten Desert Experience event also marked NDE's 25th anniversary. Highlights of the weekend included a party where we shared a slideshow of 25 years of experiences in the desert and a new song by Peter Ediger (see below); a mass co-celebrated by Joyce Hollyday and Bill Wylie-Kellermann, long-time peace activists, and Bob Nelson, former DOE manager at the Test Site; and a liturgy and action out at the Test Site. The co-celebrated mass was a beautiful glimpse into the power of common

faith to bring people together. And as Barb Guy wrote in the Salt Lake Tribune on May 8th, the Test Site liturgy highlighted the wonderful diversity in our movement:

"Corbin and I stood together, holding hands, our heads bowed in prayer, or in respect for the prayers of others, as a religious service was held in the nuclear dust. This Catholic mass welcomed the Shoshone spiritual leader, a Jewish man wearing a tallit and reading from the Torah, a Mennonite, an Episcopal priest, a Jesuit priest, a Zen priest, a Methodist minister, an elderly nun in microfleece pants and sneakers, a former Marine officer, a hibakusha (Japanese survivor of the Hiroshima atomic bomb), my husband Chris, and me. It was a fine American exercise in people of many faiths coming together, talking through difference, wishing for peace, and petitioning our government."

At the liturgy we also got to hear a letter from Fr. Louie Vitale, OFM, who was at that time still in jail (he is now released



Fr. Steve Kelly, SJ celebrates an inclusive mass at the Test Site to close our weekend of experimentation in nonviolent peacemaking.

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Holy is this Desert by Peter Ediger

They've been coming to this desert now for 25 long years
They've been coming with their faith and hope,
 been coming with their tears,
They've been calling for conversion from
 our hatred and our fears,
Their truth goes marching on.

Holy, holy is this desert
Holy, holy is this desert
Holy, holy is this desert
The truth goes marching on.

Concerned about the blasting bombs
 deep down in Mother Earth,
Inspired by the Assisian Saint who knew life's precious worth,
Convinced about nonviolence as the promise of new birth,
The truth goes marching on.

In the dawning of the New Creation fears will be allayed,
We will turn our guns and bombs into a garden and a spade,
With our sisters and our brothers we will have a peace parade,
The truth goes marching on.

NDE EVENTS SPRING ROUNDUP

Ash Wednesday

This Lenten season NDE led many events, starting with an Ash Wednesday witness at the Test Site. Ten long-time NDE participants conducted a reconciliation service, using ashes from Corbin's sunrise ceremony at the 2005 August Desert Witness and each contributing from their own faith tradition. "We begged pardon of the earth and universe for what has been happening to this sacred land," said Sr. Megan Rice, SHCJ. It had just rained in the desert, so everyone rejoiced in the water as a sign of renewal and new life.



Methodist Weekend

Twenty-five people, mostly pastors at Methodist churches in Southern California, gathered for a short Lenten Desert Experience in March. They heard a presentation about the Test Site and NDE's nonviolent witness on Friday night. Saturday they held a liturgy at the Test Site, at the end of which nearly twenty people "crossed the line." They returned home by bus on Saturday evening in order to deliver sermons on their desert peace witness the following morning in church.

"I had a very deep experience there," said Joyce Georgieff, Santa Ana Methodist minister. "I only realized the next day, watching a video on Jesus' cleansing of the temple, that it was the angry, indignant Christ I was feeling out there; standing up to what we're doing to God's world. Before the weekend I'd gotten the message politically but not spiritually."

Immersion

In January we led a small group of students from UC Berkeley on an educational and experiential trip to Las Vegas and the Test Site. This intensive retreat gave us all a chance to deepen our faith and broaden our spirituality, increase our understanding of how nuclearism ties together with other issues, and re-ignite our commitment to action for peace and justice.

The Immersion Program is a week-long opportunity to learn about the links among nuclear weapons and indigenous sovereignty, environmental degradation, militarism and economic injustice. College-aged participants spend a week of their winter, spring, or summer breaks to pray and learn at the Nevada Test Site and in the surrounding desert. They stay with Corbin Harney, Western Shoshone spiritual leader, at his healing center, Poohabah; attend a full-moon ceremony at the goddess temple; and serve with the Catholic Workers on their morning soup line and attend their weekly peace vigil. Participants also visit the new Atomic Testing Museum, take the official DOE tour of the Test Site, and meet with Citizen Alert to learn about the struggle over Yucca Mountain and nuclear waste. Finally, they get a chance to view the Las Vegas strip through the alternative lens of the environment and a just economy.

In May we hosted another group of college students: six sophomores from St. Mary's College in Oakland, for whom this immersion was an "alternative break" service trip. We always welcome new groups of students; please contact us if you are interested!

Pacific Life Community

by Mingsan (Richard) Lai

The Pacific Life Community is a group of activists in the West who came together to bear witness to and protest nuclear weapons and warmaking. Through the decades the energy for the group has waned but, on April 26th of this year, people from Catholic Worker houses from along the West Coast, Nevada Desert Experience, and members of Ground Zero, met in Tacoma, Washington. They wanted to discern the need for reincarnating the organization. I felt exhilarated and energized to be at the rebirth of the Pacific Life Community. Meeting the people, hearing their personal stories and witnessing the camaraderie contributed to my feelings of hopefulness and energy for activism.

The Pacific Life Community has decided to meet at the Nevada Test Site on March 2-4, 2007 to strategize, plan and coordinate. For more information please see www.pacificlifecommunity.wordpress.com.

Holy Week Peace Walk

An Island of Peace Space
by Laurie Pollack

This spring, I experienced two events in which Nevada Desert Experience was involved.

I joined the peace walk on Wednesday. That night Anne, Priestess of the Goddess Temple, led us and others in a Full Moon ritual on the theme of peace.

Thursday, we walked around 11 miles then had a Passover seder at our camp in a desert similar to that experienced by the Jews as they left Egypt.

That evening around the campfire we discussed the next day's action and agreed that those who felt called to do so, would lie down on the land and pray.

Good Friday Corbin Harney led us in a sunrise ritual and we walked to the Test Site. Due to the rain the Stations of the Cross were held inside a tunnel filled with antinuclear graffiti.

Then we walked to the white line, where some remained in solemn vigil while others meditatively walked across the line, while others, including myself, held hands and lay face down praying for peace and then got up, held hands again, and then lay down again, this time on the other side of the line.

Guards gestured to us to follow them obediently as we had in other years. This did not occur.

After a while they asked each of us if we would get up and follow them into the holding cell, and all except one man did: he continued his prayer witness until he was carried into the holding pen while explaining to the guards that the US occupation of the land was illegal.

During our detention, two sheriffs came in and chatted with us: perhaps a consequence of the reconciliation conference?

The second event was the "Stop Divine Strake" action Memorial Weekend.

We got word only that Thursday that the test had been "postponed indefinitely" – but it was NOT cancelled, and several hundred of the many concerned about the non-cancellation, came.

The weekend was a flow of shared meals, erecting tents together, workshops, song, nonviolence and peacekeeper trainings, rituals, a three year old boy holding a sign saying "Please don't!", Carrie Dann saying "Enough is Enough!": an island of peace space.

After the rally, we processed to the Test Site, where Shoshone representatives told the guards that the US government was trespassing, and then a river of people of all colors and ages crossed the line together.

I had done this before: but this felt different: there was a feeling of hope created by so many bodies, minds, hearts and spirits walking together to erase all the lines and boundaries.

I noted in the holding pen that among us were several Shoshone women. I realized with sadness that they had been arrested for WALKING onto their OWN land: an act of very powerful civil disobedience bringing into view an unjust law.

The men on the other side of the wall asked us if we had

water: we told them we did, but we felt cared-for and protected by their concern.



Protestors hug the earth inside the line.
Photo by Mario P. Intino Jr.

The Salt Lake Radical Cheerleaders (Pom Poms! Not Bomb Bombs!) taught us cheers, we sang, and we discussed our grandchildren, jobs, and the treatment of women by various faiths.

I realized that I felt safe and even free. However our rights had been taken away. I wondered whether there were other less obvious situations in American life where we felt safe and even free: yet the Patriot Act, NSA, etc., were encroaching while we were unaware?

The next day at the airport the TV in the baggage claim room broadcast news about massacres in Iraq. But I still felt hopeful: peace space will someday be more than

a small island.

Taking Heart in Tough Times A Retreat with Joanna Macy

by Leslie Klusmire

I am so grateful for the opportunity to attend the NDE retreat with Joanna Macy with my inspirational daughter Mariah. Mariah has been a strong activist for social justice for years and knowing her makes me feel more hopeful about the future of the world.

Mariah writes, "The Joanna Macy gathering was very informative and educational. What I basically got out of the whole seminar was that even though all these terrible things could happen, don't dwell on that but think about how you could stop it from happening now with your actions. Live life right now and don't just think about the past and/or future, even though you should think about it occasionally, don't obsess over it and not do anything that might prevent terrible things from happening. DO SOMETHING. That's what I got out of the whole conference, and I found it very helpful."

I also started "doing something" in high school. I know about activist burn out, either from overdoing or unconsciously expecting to be effective – to achieve "success" with effort. Joanna's reminders to care for ourselves and stay in touch with our own knowing about evil and domination are important if we are to continue working with clear intentions. Anger and grief are difficult emotions for those of us who are hard-core idealists, and I have been through the burnout, bitterness and sense of defeat that can result from not acknowledging them. I wanted Mariah to have this wisdom at the beginning of her vocation.

Mariah Klusmire will join NDE as an intern this August.

Western Shoshone Victorious at United Nations

by *The Western Shoshone Defense Project*

www.wsdp.org

On March 10th, 2006, in Geneva Switzerland, an historic and strongly worded decision by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) urged the U.S. to “freeze”, “desist” and “stop” actions being taken or threatened to be taken against the Western Shoshone Peoples of the Western Shoshone Nation. In its decision, CERD stressed the “nature and urgency” of the Shoshone situation informing the U.S. that it goes “well beyond” the normal reporting process and warrants immediate attention under the Committee’s Early Warning and Urgent Action Procedure.

This monumental action challenges the US government’s assertion of federal ownership of nearly 90% of Western Shoshone lands. The land base covers approximately 60 million acres, stretching across what is now referred to as the states of Nevada, Idaho, Utah and California. Western Shoshone rights to the land - which they continue to use, care for, and occupy today - were recognized by the United States in 1863 by the Treaty of Ruby Valley . The U.S. now claims these same lands as “public” or federal lands through an agency process and has denied Western Shoshone fair access to U.S. courts through that same process. The land base has been and continues to be used by the United States for military testing, open pit cyanide heap leach gold mining and nuclear waste disposal planning. The U.S. has engaged in military style seizures of Shoshone livestock, trespass fines in the millions of dollars and ongoing armed surveillance of Western Shoshone who continue to assert their original and treaty rights.

The United States was “urged to pay particular attention to the right to health and cultural rights of the Western Shoshone...which may be infringed upon by activities threatening their environment and/or disregarding the spiritual and cultural significance they give to their ancestral lands.” The decision details the U.S.’ actions against the Western Shoshone and calls upon the United States to immediately:

- * Respect and protect the human rights of the Western Shoshone peoples;
- * Initiate a dialogue with the representatives of the Western Shoshone peoples in order to find a solution acceptable to them, and which complies with their rights;
- * Adopt the following measures until a final decision or settlement is reached on the status, use and occupation of Western Shoshone ancestral lands in accordance with due process of law and the U.S.’ obligations under the Convention;
 - o Freeze all efforts to privatize Western Shoshone ancestral lands for transfer to multinational extractive industries and energy developers;
 - o Desist from all activities planned and/or conducted on Western Shoshone ancestral lands;
 - o Stop imposing grazing fees, livestock impoundments, hunting, fishing and gathering restrictions and rescind all

notices already made.

The Committee gave the U.S. a July 15, 2006 deadline to provide it with information on the action it had taken. The decision issued today demonstrates a solid commitment by the United Nations human rights system to make the Western Shoshone’s struggle a priority.

Said Joe Kennedy, Western Shoshone, “We have rights to protect our homelands and stop the destruction of our land, water, and air by the abuses of the United States government and the multinational corporations. The situation is outrageous and we’re glad the United Nations Committee agrees with us. Our people have suffered more nuclear testing than anywhere else in the world and they’re continuing underground testing despite our protests. Yucca Mountain is being hollowed out in order to store nuclear waste. We cannot stand for it – this earth, the air, the water are sacred. People of all races must stop this insanity now in order to secure a safe future for all.”

Said Bernice Lalo, Western Shoshone, “We are Shoshone delegates speaking for a Nation threatened by extinction. The mines are polluting our waters, destroying hot springs and exploding sacred mountains—our burials along with them--attempting to erase our signature on the land. We are coerced and threatened by mining and Federal agencies when we seek to continue spiritual prayers for traditional food or medicine on Shoshone land. We have endured murder of our Newe people for centuries, as chronicled in military records, but now we are asked to endure a more painful death from the U.S. governmental agencies —a separation from land and spiritual renewal. We thank our past leaders for their persistence and courage and the CERD for this monumental step.”

At our NDE spring board meeting, we were excited to hear of this news from Bonnie and Johnnie Bobb. Justice for the land and justice for the people are truly indivisible.

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and, lucky for us, spending his time in Las Vegas and the Bay Area):

“It is amazing to consider that the witness in the Nevada desert is now in its 25th year. We would have hoped that nuclear testing is only history. We are grateful that largely as a result of worldwide protest full scale testing is on hold... It is good to know our protests are effective, even if short of our goal to stop all development of nuclear weapons including the subcritical tests presently done at NTS... I am sorry I cannot join you in this historic commemoration. I will be present at the August Desert Witness and invite you all to come as we commemorate the tragedies of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with atomic weapons. We must continue to keep all our efforts to forestall the repeat of these terrible crimes against human life... May your example of ‘speaking from the heart’ from various perspectives advance the healing of ourselves and the world community.”

A 700 Ton Divine Strake Prayer
by Peter Ediger

Lord, help us penetrate your earth more deeply
so we may more surely kill.
Send a big cloud into the sky
so we will not see that distant hill
where your son again will die.

POETRY

Divine Strake (June Jordan emulation)
by Chelsea Collonge

June 2nd, 2006

700 tons of ammonium nitrate and fuel oil
will blast, mushrooming above Las Vegas
"They're simulating an earth penetrating nuclear weapon,"

the analysts say

We lie by the creosote bush,
nose to perfect purple star:
"but this desert, this flower"

anti-Divine Strake protest - continued from page 1

to the Western Shoshone struggle.

There were a series of workshops throughout the weekend, including presentations by most of the indigenous activists present, including Corbin Harney, Tom Goldtooth of the Indigenous Environmental Network, John Wells of the Western Shoshone National Council, Blue Thunder of the Eastern Shoshone Nation, and multiple others. There was a nonviolence training on Saturday night, which got excellent reviews from virtually everyone who participated. The next morning featured a presentation by MacGregor Eddy on the Vandenberg Air Force Base and one on current US nuclear weapons programs by Andy Lichterman of Western States Legal Foundation.

Despite persistent government denials that "Divine Strake" (or "Hellish Strake," as many of us call it) would have had anything to do with nuclear weapons, one of the Department of Defense's own planning documents acknowledges that the test was designed to simulate the conditions of a tactical nuclear weapons bunker-buster, as part of a program to "develop a planning tool that will improve the warfighter's confidence in selecting the smallest proper nuclear yield necessary to destroy underground facilities while minimizing collateral damage."

In the media coverage, there were few mentions of this connection, or of the fact that the Test Site has been the site of over 900 nuclear tests since 1952, 100 of them above-ground. Nevertheless, the local media of Nevada and Utah did some good reporting during the lead-up to the event and regarding the event itself. Peggy Johnson of Citizen Alert remarked in the Las Vegas Sun on Monday, May 29 that "it isn't often that we the people win against the behemoth called the United States government, but it happened." It would be nice if such empowering messages were broadcast in the media more widely.

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Following a powerful and spirited rally on Sunday afternoon, the march to the Test Site gate was led by Western Shoshone and other indigenous activists, culminated with mass civil disobedience and the arrest of over 50 people on charges of trespassing. The protestors were detained and released after little more than an hour.

While at the Test Site gate, John Wells and Tom Goldtooth served notice to Test Site guards from the Nye County Sheriff Department that they are in violation of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley, obligating them under both Western Shoshone and United States law to evacuate the premises.

The demonstrators conveyed a near-universal sense that the government is likely to attempt to revive the "Divine Strake" plan soon after public opposition dies down. So while the protest marked a major victory against the US nuclear weapons complex, most of us left feeling determined to remain vigilant and keep the pressure on. Moreover, the struggle for Western Shoshone liberation and closure to the Test Site, as part of the simultaneous struggle for nuclear abolition, goes on.

Will Parrish is Youth Empowerment Director at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in Santa Barbara, CA.



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AUGUST DESERT WITNESS 2006 to remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

NEVADA

You are invited to NDE's August Desert Witness to commemorate the 61st Anniversary of the nuclear bombings of Japan. We will be holding a gathering out at the Nevada Test Site on August 6th, with an emphasis on local outreach. We will also be interacting with survivors from Nagasaki who are visiting Las Vegas on August 9th for the start of the Nagasaki Peace Museum's exhibit at the Atomic Testing Museum. Please join Fr. Louie Vitale, OFM and others! Please email info@nevadadesertexperience.org to RSVP.



NEW MEXICO (www.paxchristinewmexico.org)

8/5: "Taking a Stand for Peace": an evening in Santa Fe with Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, and long-time activist who led over 20 delegations to Iraq, KATHY KELLY. The event will be at 7:30 p.m. at El Museo Cultural (1615 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe)

Mass for the Feast of the Transfiguration at Santa Maria de la Paz Church (11 College Ave in Santa Fe). Nonviolence Training will be offered from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Church.

8/6: Walk, Pray & Vigil For Peace in Los Alamos, NM at 1:00 p.m.

CALIFORNIA (www.trivalleycares.org) (www.wslfweb.org)

8/6: March and Ritual at Livermore Nuclear Weapons Lab
Speakers and music will be 8-9 a.m. A march to join an all-faiths ritual will follow 10-11 a.m. (Atheists also welcome.) Also join us for the Livermore Peace Camp August 5!

8/9: Protect Mother Earth Nonviolent Action at Bechtel Headquarters! [Bechtel, 50 Beale St, San Francisco, near Embarcadero BART.]

Bechtel is one of the top profiteers of the war in Iraq, violator of indigenous rights, and nuclear weapons profiteer. Ceremony will be led by Corbin Harney, Western Shoshone spiritual leader. 10 a.m.