

Desert Voices

The Newsletter of the Nevada Desert Experience

Vol. 8 No. 3 Autumn 1995



500 COME TO AUGUST DESERT WITNESS 1995

by David Buer, ofm

We gathered on the campus of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas on Friday, August 4th. For the next several days, a spirit of community formed, unusual for a group our size and composition. We began Friday evening by watching an excerpt from filmed interviews of Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors). Then we were gently invited by music and dance to enter into the weekend in a spirit of faith and grace. Anne Symens-Bucher and Louie Vitale, ofm helped us focus on why we were gathering for this 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Corbin Harney welcomed us in the name of his native people, the Western Shoshone. Alan Senauke taught us about the Buddhist mindfulness bell that helped keep us centered during the weekend. Terry Tempest Williams gave the keynote, telling the story, as a good novelist would, of her life, her family and her people who have suffered illnesses and death by living downwind from the Nevada Test Site. Finally, with the help of Rabbi Margaret Holub and Naomi Steinberg we entered into the joy--despite the darkness around us--of Shabbat. Continued Page 5



(L to R) Hozan Alan Senauke, Rabbi Leonard Beerman, Bishop C. Dale White and Bishop Leontine Kelly at the Nevada Test Site, August 6, 1995.

TESTING UPDATE

FRANCE & CHINA CONTINUE TESTING

Aug. 10: France announces support of an "any yield" Comprehensive Test Ban (CTB) by 1996. France may turn its nuclear test site into a Club Med resort by May 1996 after testing is completed.

Aug. 11: President Clinton announces that the U.S. will negotiate for a "true zero yield" CTB, joining France in its commitment.

Aug. 12: In Tinneman Square, Greenpeace protests China's upcoming nuclear test.

Aug. 17: At Lop Nor, China conducts its second nuclear test of 1995 and its 43rd since beginning testing in 1964. China is preparing for one more test, likely in October.

Aug. 25: The *Christian Science Monitor* reports that an international consumer boycott of French goods is having an effect. The boycott is to protest France's expected resumption of nuclear testing. Government officials of dozens of countries also register their protests.

Aug. 31: President Chirac of France offers to extend its "nuclear umbrella" to the European Union (EU). Seven EU nations register their protest of France's plans to resume nuclear testing.

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TESTING UPDATE **Cont. from page 1**

Sept. 4: President Clinton, in Hawaii to commemorate the end of World War II, asks Pres. Chirac to delay the planned nuclear test in the Pacific. Protests are reported in San Francisco, Seattle, Austin, Chicago, New York and at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Sept. 5: France explodes a nuclear weapon beneath the Mururoa Atoll ending its three year testing moratorium. Mururoa is 3,200 miles southeast of Hawaii. Environmental protest ships surround the atoll. Two protesters are arrested--one after breaching tight French security and spending the night on the atoll. Australia "unreservedly condemns" France's test while the U.S. "regrets" the test.

Sept. 6: To protest France's resumption of testing, Polynesian nuclear site workers plan to strike.

Sept. 7: France sends hundreds of troops to quell protesters in Tahiti. The airport is temporarily closed.

Sept. 11: New Zealand urges the International Court to order France to stop its nuclear testing program.

Sept. 13: The White House announces a Nov. 3 meeting between Pres. Clinton and Pres. Chirac of France. One issue to be discussed is the signing next year of the Comprehensive Test Ban.

Sept. 14: Pope John Paul II says nuclear weapons testing should be stopped. Vatican officials say not to take the Pope's words out of context. The Pope "hopes a ban on the use of nuclear weapons will be reached everywhere."

Sept. 16: A news release reveals that the U.S. allowed France to fly over U.S. territory to bring in some of its nuclear testing equipment bound for Mururoa Atoll. Since 1987, it has been illegal to fly plutonium over U.S. territory. Greenpeace wants a ban on all nuclear testing equipment flights.

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Terry Tempest Williams lights a candle before her keynote address Friday evening.

ADW 1995 PARTICIPANTS' COMMENTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

"Thank you for a wonderful experience this August Desert Witness...Utah Peace Test is now vigiling at the Federal Building in **Salt Lake City**."

--Jeff Wilson, Salt Lake City, UT

"Various ones we know from L.A. who attended have told me what a great experience [ADW 1995] was."

--Madonna Newburg, Manhattan Beach, CA

"Just want to tell you how extraordinary the weekend was for me and for everyone with whom I talked, how crisp and deep and effective I think your work was, and how amazingly you wove together the different people, traditions and communities."

--Arthur Waskow, Philadelphia, PA

"The most outstanding was at the Test site on Sunday morning. I just couldn't believe when we **got there** and there were chairs, canopies, water and such decorations!!"

--Beget Jelane, San Jose, CA

"The program was so well-balanced and very healing and inspirational to keep on [keepin' on]."

--Sarah Kahn, Why, AZ

"I heard so many people say how great the arrangements were this time--economical, comfortable, stimulating, thoughtful (ice in our water bottles)."

--Prof. Robert Brophy, Long Beach, CA

"Thanks for the wonderful experience..."

--Grace Thorpe, Prague, OK

"A bravura performance..."

--Barbara Graves, Oakland, CA

"This has been a holy, healing time for me."

--Marcia Timmel, Washington, D.C.

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COMMENTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

Continued from page 2

"...this grace-filled energy wove its way through the presenters words, the musicians' lyrics, the dancers' movements and the participants' meals and conversations."

--Karen McLaughlin, Los Angeles, CA

"I have just finished a letter to [Pres. Clinton] speaking of my experience at the Nevada Test site...I am deeply grateful to all of you for your witnesses and presence to all of us on the August Desert Witness days."

--Henry Beck, ofm, Cincinnati, OH

"...it was a great conference. I talked about it at our Quaker meeting (Santa Monica) and to others."

--Andy Liberman, West Hollywood, CA

"The Hiroshima August Desert Witness enriched us: we are still cracked enough for some Light to get in."

--Diana Hirschi, Salt Lake City, UT

"Participating in the [August Desert Witness] was a real high point for me...the constant link of faith, witness and political action felt just perfect...Special thanks to the musicians!"

--Jan McElhaney, Madison, WI

"I pray that soon that we can celebrate France and China agreeing to end their testing and we see closure of the plant there in Mercury. I thought the witnesses and music was wonderful on Sat. morning--Richard [Rohr] was excellent."

--Fr. Chris Ponnet, Los Angeles, CA

"The stroll on the Strip and the silence in the desert (not long enough, unfortunately) were perfect counterweights to the sitting and soaking up of words. I will be back!"

--Mary Liepold, Washington, D.C.

"I have made many new friends, schmoozed with old ones and [have been] fed to keep on walking."

--Udo Wald, San Diego, CA

"Thank you for a wonderful event."

--Diane Salisbury, Sardinia, OH

"...it was a very holy time for me."

--Mary Burson, San Jose, CA

"Of all the events I've attended at the Test Site, I enjoyed [ADW 1995] the most. I was terribly impressed by the spiritual depth..."

--Dr. Fred Richards, Gallup, NM

"Sandy [Adams and I were] impressed by the coming together of different religious traditions in a common unity...This coming together is essential in helping create a more peaceful world."

--Chris Montesano, Sheepranch, CA

TESTING UPDATE

Continued from page 2

Sept. 17: The U.S. announces it will decide soon whether to sign the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone treaty.

Sept. 18: President Clinton says the U.S. "will redouble our effort to conclude this [CTB] treaty no later than the fall of 1996."

Sept. 19: *The Washington Post* reports that French-U.S. nuclear links will expand despite U.S. objections to France's resumption of nuclear testing.

Sept. 20: *The Guardian* reports that Britain is secretly collaborating with the French nuclear testing program.

Sept. 21: Anti-nuclear groups argue against U.S. plans to develop an earth penetrating nuclear weapon.

Thanks to Bruce Hall of the CTB Clearinghouse for permission to glean from their regular faxes "To Testing Followers Everywhere." For more information call Bruce at the CTB Clearinghouse at (202) 862-9740 ext. 3051.



Rabbi Margaret Holub & Naomi Steinberg lead the Friday night Shabbat service.



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about upcoming
events at Law-
rence Livermore
Laboratories
and at the Uni-
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Nuclear Weapons Research and Development--Moving Into the Laboratories?

[Thanks to Marylia Kelly of Tri-Valley CARES for help with this report]

Since 1992 the U.S. has honored a moratorium on nuclear weapons testing. President Clinton has committed his administration to a "true zero yield" Comprehensive Test Ban (CTB) treaty. To comply with that potential CTB treaty some military leaders, nuclear weapons designers and the Department of Energy (DOE) are arguing for the National Ignition Facility (NIF).

The NIF is an over \$4.5 billion laser fusion project that most likely will be located at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Northern California. The NIF will allow scientists to test nuclear weapons without exploding them. The problem is that it will give the U.S. an advantage over other nuclear and non-nuclear states around the world. Therefore, it has potentially grave international nuclear nonproliferation implications.

With projected construction costs of \$1.1 billion and a total cost of \$4.5 billion the NIF will be the most expensive element of DOE's so-called "Stockpile Stewardship" program. However, its value to stewardship remains dubious. Its primary purpose is to maintain a cadre of nuclear weapons designers and weapons expertise, not to maintain the safety and reliability of the existing stockpile.

NIF will generate only about 230 long-term jobs at the lab (includes scientists, engineers, and support staff), less than almost any civilian project of comparable cost. Given DOE's other major commitments of cleanup, dismantlement, and disposition, which also carry substantial price tags, the wisdom of spending such large amounts of money on NIF must be seriously reviewed. A recent Congressional Budget Office report, *The Bomb's Custodians* (July 1994), calculates that canceling NIF would result in a savings of \$330 million from 1995 to 1999, with an annual savings of \$115 million thereafter.

WRITE YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES TODAY. TELL THEM NOT TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL IGNITION FACILITY!

Subscribe to:

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Since 1980, your connection to the anti-nuclear direct action movement. Action reports, peace prisoner support, writings from jail. \$18 / 10 issues from the Nuclear Resister, P.O. Box 43383, Tucson, AZ 85733. Free sample issue on request.

50 Years is Enough
Resist Nuclear Madness



500 Attend ADW 1995

Continued from page one

Saturday sessions began at a 7a.m. breakfast with Fr. Miguel d'Escoto from Nicaragua. He spoke about the historical context of the Sandinista movement and his efforts at promoting non-violence in the midst of a revolutionary movement. There were two keynote speakers Saturday morning, Jack Dairiki (an Hibakusha from Hiroshima) and Richard Rohr, ofm. Interspersed were "Sacred Stories & Sacred Prayer" from different groups of radiation sufferers and religious traditions. On Sat. afternoon, there was a dance workshop with Carla DeSola, a Bible study with Ched Myers, and a study of "Active Nonviolence for the Long Haul" with a panel discussion led by Dolores Huerta, Arun Gandhi, Miguel d'Escoto, Bishop Leontine Kelly and Arthur Waskow. At 4:15p.m. Jack Dairiki led us in a minute of silent meditation at the exact moment that the atomic bomb was dropped 50 years ago on the civilians of Hiroshima.

After dinner we walked several miles in a peace procession from the UNLV campus to the Las Vegas strip. We were joined by Fr. Juan Romero and 40 of his parishioners from St. Francis Church in Los Angeles who came by bus just to be with us. When we reached Las Vegas Blvd. we stood in a single line with candles lit for a five minute silent vigil in the midst of the Las Vegas strip. We concluded with a Havdalah Service. Several Las Vegas television stations covered the procession.

Sunday morning began early with a sunrise ceremony at 5a.m. led by Corbin Harney. At 6a.m. we boarded the buses and cars to head out to the test site. There in the midst of the desert, was a glorious outdoor cathedral, with an altar, silk screen substitutes for stained glass, chairs and canopies. What followed was a liturgy worthy of such a cathedral including a procession of one thousand beautiful, colorful, handmade peace cranes, dancers

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MARK YOUR CALENDERS!

LENTEN DESERT EXPERIENCE XV

in Las Vegas, NV and
at the Nevada Test Site

Franciscan
Weekend:
Friday, March 29
to
Palm Sun., Mar. 31

Holy Week Vigil
& Liturgies:
Monday, April 1
to
Easter Sun., Apr. 7

Contact NDE for more information,



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500 Attend ADW 1995

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bearing peace poles, and words of peace from the Jewish, Christian, Buddhist and Native American traditions. After the liturgy we processed/danced to the gate where we formed a circle that went to both ends of the barbed-wire fence on each side of the road. Then the procession began across the cattle guard. There were 184 arrests, interestingly, 92 men and 92 women.

For those who could stay beyond the weekend, there was a panel discussion on Monday morning (Thinking Globally); one Monday afternoon (Acting Locally) and another Monday evening (Stories of Protests at the test site from the 1970s & 1980s). Two busloads of participants made the DOE sponsored test site tour on Tuesday. In the evening we gathered together to share the emotions we experienced as a result of viewing the tragic reality of billions of dollars spent toward nuclear destruction. On Wednesday, Aug. 9th, the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, about 100 of us returned to the Mercury gate of the test site to discover the fence had been rolled away. We were joined by a large group of Catholic Workers from Los Angeles. Dan Olivieri, ofm and T'Shala Vahsen led us in a liturgy that incorporated herbs from the Pacific Islanders of Saipan who, as an act of solidarity, had sent them to us in a handmade woven-basket. Dozens of us were arrested as we crossed the line after

the liturgy, joining those already there who had rolled back the fence in the early hours of the morning. *

Worthy of Note:

A SONG: A recording of original music by Dar Williams entitled **The Honesty Room**. One selection, "The Great Unknown," was composed after her 1992 visit to an NDE event at the test site. To order, phone (800) 443-3555.

A BOOK: On the Wings of Peace: Writers and Illustrators Speak Out for Peace, in Memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. [\$21.95 Clarion Books 215 Park Ave. South/ New York, NY 10003] This 144 page book compiled by Sheila Hamanaka has a vibrant text and is richly illustrated. Over 60 creative writers and artists contributed to the work aimed toward children. All royalties benefit international peace organizations.

AUGUST 6, 1995 AT THE NEVADA TEST SITE: PRAYER BY RABBI LEONARD BEERMAN MOMENTS BEFORE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein. For God hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the flood. Who shall ascend the mountain of the Lord and who shall stand in God's holy place? The one that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not taken my name in vain, and hath not sworn deceitfully. That one shall receive a blessing from the Lord, and justice from the God of our salvation. Such is the generation of them that seek thy presence, O God of Jacob."

(Sent in by Andy Liberman)

Warning: French Nuclear Testing is Hazardous to World Peace

French President Jacques Chirac wants France to detonate eight nuclear weapon test explosions in the South Pacific. It's part of France's effort to build a new, deadlier nuclear stockpile for the 21st century.

From Paris to Tahiti, thousands of citizens are marching through the streets to urge Chirac to maintain France's current nuclear testing moratorium. They're calling for a world-wide comprehensive ban on all nuclear tests - a key step on the road to nuclear disarmament.

Join the global movement to achieve this important disarmament, non-proliferation, and environmental treaty. Support the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Contact President Jacques Chirac through the French Embassy in Washington, D.C. Tell him to maintain France's current nuclear testing moratorium. Urge him to sign a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty this year that bans all nuclear explosions, no exceptions.

President Jacques Chirac c/o The Embassy of France
4101 Reservoir Road, NW • Washington, DC 20007
Phone: 202.944.6070 • Fax: 202.944.6072

ADW '95 ORDER FORM



AUDIO CASSETTES

- #1_____ Terry Tempest Williams & Jack Dairiki (90 min.) \$12
- #2_____ Richard Rohr, ofm & Miguel d'Escoto (90 min.) \$12
- #3_____ Sunday Interfaith Service at test site; Shabbat Service
(Rabbi Margaret Holub & Naomi Steinberg) (90 min.) \$12
- #4_____ Sacred Stories, Sacred Prayer (Ian Zabarte, Sunanda Gandhi,
Terry Tempest Williams, Bishop C. Dale White, June Stark Casey,
Alan Senauke, Jerry Sears, Rabbi Leonard Beerman, Louie Vitale,
Bishop Leontine Kelly) (60 min.) \$10
- #5_____ Ched Myers Bible Study (60 min.) \$10
- #6_____ Active Nonviolence for the Long Haul (Arun Gandhi, Arthur
Waskow, Bishop Leontine Kelly, Dolores Huerta, Miguel D'Escoto) (60 min.) \$10
- #7_____ Aug. 8 morning panel "Thinking Globally": Louie Vitale; Alain
Richard; Rosemary Lynch; June Stark Casey; Miguel d'Escoto; Cindy Pile; Bill
Rosse; Gianni Novelli (90 min.) \$10
- #8_____ Aug. 8 afternoon panel "Acting Locally": Mary Manning; Frank
Strabala; Judy Treichel; Chris Brown; Ian Zabarte (90 min.) \$10

Entire set of eight talks is \$75

VIDEO TAPES

- _____ Edited 30 minute overview of ADW 95 \$25
- _____ Edited 60 minute overview of ADW 95 \$30
- _____ Arthur Eaton's raw (unedited) 5 hours (3 video tapes) \$65
- _____ Clancy Dunigan's raw 11 hours (6 video tapes) \$125
- _____ **Bound by the Wind**, David Brown's award winning documentary \$25

MERCHANDISE

- _____ ADW '95 Candles \$10
- _____ ADW '95 T-Shirts XL L M S \$12
- _____ Year of Nonviolence T-Shirts XL L M S \$12
- _____ Assorted NDE T-Shirts of past events XL L M S (Oldies but Goodies) \$5
- _____ ADW '95 Pin-on Buttons \$1
- _____ ADW '95 Magnetic Buttons \$1

All prices include shipping and handling. Payment must accompany order. Please make checks payable to "Nevada Desert Experience."

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Yes! I want to make a donation to NDE. Enclosed is _____ for NDE's continuing work. Please send in your orders or donations to:
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ADW 1995 CULMINATES NDE'S YEAR OF NONVIOLENCE

NDE is extremely grateful to all who participated in our Year of Nonviolence. Thanks to all who hosted a housemeeting or attended one of our earlier gatherings in the desert in August, October and November 1994; and January 1995.

Lenten Desert Experience XIV began **Ash Wednesday** with a vigil by the site of the old peace camp across the highway from the Mercury Gate of the Nevada Test Site. We are grateful to John Stangle who loaned us his camper truck throughout Lent, especially since some peace campers in tents, were able to take refuge in it during an early spring snow in March. During **Holy Week**, Corbin Harney joined us and folks from Healing Global Wounds. They set up two sweat lodges that were used by many. Seeds of Peace and Wade provided meals. Larry Levy and Jennifer Gaylor deserve special mention for all their on-sight work along with Jennifer Viereck for the behind-the-scenes organizing. On **Good Friday** there was a Stations of the Cross coordinated by the Las Vegas Catholic Worker and on Holy Saturday night, Alain Richard, ofm celebrated an **Easter Vigil Mass** in a kerosene-lit tent at the peace camp. On **Easter Sunday**, an ecumenical liturgy preceeded the nonviolent action.

In **May**, twenty-five supporters participated in the **Walk for Peace** from the Department of Energy headquarters in Las Vegas to the Nevada Test Site. This coincided with the last week of the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty conference at the United Nations in New York. David Ghent, from Sacramento, CA and Phil Runkel, from Milwaukee, WI and I walked all 80 miles! Las Vegas area friends supplied us with evening suppers. Along the way we were guests of the Paiute tribe; of Ian Zabarte of the Western Shoshone; of Patricia Pearlman, caregiver of the Goddess temple in Cactus Springs; and of the Atomic Vets living on the mountain overlooking the Nevada Test Site. We saw many desert flowers and even a desert tortoise.

During **July**, in the midst of our preparations for ADW 1995, we helped host a car load of pilgrims from the Atomic Mirror Pilgrimage. They had been at Alamogordo, NM on the 50th anniversary of the first atomic explosion and were on their way to Japan.

From **August 4-9** over 500 people joined us at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas campus and at the Nevada Test Site to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki for the NDE sponsored **August Desert Witness 1995** (see accompanying stories).

-- David Buer, ofm

**THANKS AGAIN TO ALL WHO CAME WITH THEIR TALENTS, ENERGIES & STORIES!
SEE PAGE 7 TO ORDER CASSETTE TAPES FROM AUGUST DESERT WITNESS 1995.**

Desert Voices
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JUNE STARK CASEY'S PANEGYRIC TO ADW 1995

June Stark Casey is a radiation victim who was exposed to the deliberate secret "Green Run" experiment conducted in 1949 at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, Richland, WA. She was invited to testify before Congress concerning the severe consequences to her health, resulting in more secret documents being declassified. Her story has been featured in four documentaries; she has been interviewed for two books as well as for Dan Rather's "Eye on America" (CBS) and ABC's "Day One." She was selected for a panel on Declassification Priorities convened by Department of Energy Secretary, Hazel O'Leary, in San Francisco. She has served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Radiation Survivors and is serving as Greater Bay Area Liaison for Peace Links, Washington, D.C.

Dear ADW 95 participants and members of NDE,

How can I express my gratitude to you for inviting me to your "Garden of Eden" amidst the "Desert of Destruction?" How do I acknowledge my appreciation for presenting me with the gift of one of the most inspiring, spiritual weekends in memory? Your community is the true personification of the peace button "Arms are for hugging!" Never in my life have I been hugged and embraced by so many loving souls! I arrived on Friday, knowing only one soul-dear beautiful Anne Symens-Bucher and overnight I had inherited an extended family of 500 plus! And dear Fr. Louis Vitale--the Pied Piper of the Nevada Test Site! How did I ever think that you'd be a very serious solemn person....[I was surprised to find that you wear] blue jeans and joke around all the time!

Thank you T'Shala Vahsen...whose music, ceremonies and artistic garb revealed that her father (who was once head of Naval Intelligence at the Pentagon) raised a daughter whose healing arts will help us realize the vision of the new paradigm. And the Gandhis--Arun & Sunanda! What an unbelievable privilege to meet Mahatma Gandhi's humble grandson and sweet wife...and that you recall his telling you, "If there is no war, that does not mean there is peace." Thank you, Hozan Alan Senauke, National Coordinator of Buddhist Peace Fellowship, for giving the Prayer Response following my testimony. As a great admirer of Thich Nhat Hanh and The Dalai Lama, both of whom I heard speak recently, I was grateful to be paired with you. When Utah Downwinder and author Terry Tempest Williams speaks, everyone listens. Her soft, gentle voice belies the horrors of her "Clan of One-Breasted Women." Thank you, Terry, for your eloquent opening keynote address. Thank you, Jack Dairiki, for putting the human face on the horror of Hiroshima in your keynote address and sharing your sacred story of the A-Bomb, dropping on your home when you were a young boy.

And what an erudite keynote address was presented by Franciscan priest Richard Rohr of Albuquerque. Your presentation was like an entire graduate course in divinity. Gianni Novelli of Rome, Italy and Alain Richard, ofm, originally of France certainly provided us with a European flavor and their talks enlightened us with a larger perspective of our interconnected Global Village. Jerry Sears, I urge you to pursue publishing your shipboard accounts of working in the galley, peeling radioactive potatoes and onions following the horrific nuclear tests in the South Pacific as a young 17-year-old sailor. [You are one of] the 250,000 atomic veterans subjected to nuclear testing. On Saturday, the event was billed "Breakfast with Fr. Miguel d'Escoto" of Managua, Nicaragua. And that was true literally since I was fortunate enough to sit at his table! "Foolishness often precedes wisdom!" Ched Myers and his balloon halos wafting through the Las Vegas Luxor must have turned even Ramses II over in his tomb! Oh, dear Ched, "You put the 'fun' in dysfunctional!"

Special thanks to our Jewish sisters Rabbi Margaret Holub, (I still carry with me that gorgeous smile of yours which radiated sunshine and love clear to the back of the auditorium), Student Rabbi Naomi Steinberg, and Cantor Linda Hirschhorn

and Jewish brothers **Rabbi Leonard Beerman** and **Dr. Arthur Waskow** for your Shabbat Service of Joy, Havdalah and Tisha B'Av Services. And the singing of **Jesse Manibusan!** I send my best wishes to you and your wife, Jody, as you both pursue your M.A.'s in multicultural studies at the Franciscan School of Theology...And happy 10th wedding anniversary! Thank you to **Rufino Zaragoza** for your moving piano accompaniment, which I deeply appreciated as a classical piano student for 15 years and piano teacher for 8 years. To our Shoshone brothers **Corbin Harney**, **William Rosse**, and young handsome **Ian Zabarte**, we thank you for awakening us to the truth of your elders. You three reminded us that we are all one family--that all life comes from one source.

Ken Butigan, we thank you for the excellent update on nuclear testing issues. This thorny problem even with the present moratorium doesn't seem to go away. It makes one realize our crusade for a nuclear free planet is a lifetime pursuit. Thank you, **Mary Manning**, for your dedicated reporting of nuclear issues in The Las Vegas Sun these past 30 years...Your enthusiastic pursuit of the truth kindles in me a memorable thought by Quaker Sister Martha J. Anderson of Mt. Lebanon, NY: "The lamp of genius burns as it is supplied by the oil of enthusiasm." Carla De Sola and Sabine Henrie, your beautiful movement prayer helped free us of the restricted belief that all wisdom comes from words. What an honor to have with us **Dolores Huerta**, co-founder and first vice-president of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO and contemporary of the late Cesar Chavez. Dolores, I was grateful you could speak to us about those economically impacted by the continued nuclear arms race. And how exhilarating to hear from our African American Methodist sister **Bishop Leontine Kelly** (thank you for the big warm bear hug) and Methodist brother **Bishop C. Dale White**. Your inspiring sermons helped us to think in a new way about the important moral questions facing us today.

Was it original Peace Camper **Art Casey** who said, "Fr. Louie worked his magic on us and we never left?" Thank you for sharing your journey, **Sr. Rosemary Lynch**, beginning with your first visit to the Test Site in 1977. A special thanks to **Peg Bean**, **Chris Brown**, **Dianna Hirschi**, **Judy Treichel**, **Frank Strabala** and **Cindy Pile**...Your participation on the [Monday] panels was so enlightening. And bless the crew and chief who arrived the night before the Test Site ceremony in a pizza truck no less, to set up and stay all night. When [we] arrived I couldn't believe a desert full of chairs in rows and sky blue tarps overhead! Thanks for building the altar, draped in the purple cloth of penitence, for the rainbow banner backdrop, for the large multi-colored peace crane banners, for the smaller colorful peace crane chains.

Special gratitude goes to the filmmaker-cameraman who filmed the entire conference--**Clancy Dunigan!** And a special thanks to **Nancy Jo Albers** of Fullerton, CA for the circular staircase display, showing the banned Smithsonian Enola Gay exhibit. I love the graphic art by gifted Franciscan artist **Dan Barica** on the cover--the peace dove encircled by what looks like the Rising Sun...I didn't realize the dove's wings engulfed the number "50" until I saw it enlarged on the beautiful red and beige banner on the stage [made by **Christy Hogan**.] Thanks to you all for inviting us to sip from the cup of sacredness--Fr. Louie Vitale, Sr. Rosemary Lynch, **Anne Symens-Bucher**, **David Buer, ofm**, **Jody Hart**, **Julia Occhiogrosso**, **Dan Olivieri, ofm**, **Gary Cavalier** and all the rest of the committee who handled the multitudinous details for ADW 95.

After we return to our homes following the ADW 95 spiritual weekend, may we remember the paraphrased words of C.J. Adams...Our life is a sacred journey. And it is about change, growth, discovery, movement, transformation, continuously expanding our vision of what is possible, stretching our souls, learning to see clearly and deeply, listening to our intuition, taking courageous risks, embracing challenges at every step along the way. We are on the path exactly where we are meant to be right now...And from here we can only go forward, sharing our life story into a magnificent tale of triumph, healing, courage, beauty, wisdom, power, dignity and love...

June Stark Casey