



CONTENTS

1. DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT
 - A MILITARY SPENDING
 - B IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT
 - C GENERAL
2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT
3. MISCELLANEOUS
4. RESOURCES

The Calendar of Events is available as a separate document

Note: IPB has 8 websites now! See list at <http://www.ipb.org>

1. DISARMAMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

In 2005 IPB launched a major new programme, designed to reflect widespread public concern at the rapid rise in global military spending (totalling \$1531 billion in 2009); and the evidence that weapons -- such as small arms, cluster bombs, landmines -- seriously impede sustainable development.

GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING

12th APRIL 2011

One consequence of the global economic crisis is that certain governments are beginning to cut military spending. But they won't allocate the savings to social needs unless we pressure them to do so. During the **Global Day of Action on Military Spending**, people all over the world will join together in actions to focus public, political, and media attention on the costs of military spending and the need for new priorities.

We would like you/your organization to join us by (co-)sponsoring an event in your city (a whole range of actions is possible: from street theatre/demonstrations and erecting banners to seminars, signature collection and much more). **Please write to us if you are interested in participating.** >> See <http://www.demilitarize.org/>

NEW IPB PUBLICATION: Brochure 'What does development cost?' + POSTER - for Global Day of Action on Military Spending

January 26- IPB today published its new brochure 'What does development cost?' (+poster) which is a contribution to the planning for the first-ever **Global Day of Action on Military Spending (GDAMS)**.

>>See: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/GDAMS-Brochure.pdf>

>>See: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/GDAMS-BigPoster.pdf>

You will also find here the Invitation to participate which we ask readers to pass on to any others who might be interested.

>> See: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/GDAMS-INVITE-Letter-12-Dec.pdf>

NOTE: The text of the invitation is now available in : Arabic – Dutch - French – German - Italian – Spanish at <http://demilitarize.org/background-information/>

As you can see from the map and listing at: <http://demilitarize.org/action-events/>, the idea is spreading far and wide and we are excited to see that many different events are being planned in a large number of cities. The coming GDAMS newsletters will give details of these.. (See full version of cover letter, with discussion of MDG cost estimates).

>>See:<http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/GDAMS-brochure-cover-%20letter.%20doc.pdf>

NOTE: Hard copies of all above documents are available on request.

A MILITARY SPENDING

UK MPs press government for clarity on Trident spending

From Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

MPs called for clarity on spending on Britain's Trident replacement programme and on the process through which this spending is approved. But the Minister responding to the Westminster Hall debate provided few answers beyond repeating decades-old justifications for retention of the Cold War system. Peter Luff MP, Minister for Defence Equipment, Support and Technology attempted to minimise the scale of the money that will be committed ahead of the main investment decision ('Main Gate'), due to be made in 2016..

>>See: <http://www.cnduk.org/index.php/20110301998/press-releases/trident/mps-press-government-for-clarity-on-trident-spending.html>

New budget for Myanmar gives nearly 24 per cent to defence, 1.3 per cent to health

By The Associated Press/ The Canadian Press

March 1 - Nearly one-quarter of Myanmar's new national budget will go to defence, an official publication reported Tuesday, following an election that was supposed to hand power to a civilian government after decades of military rule. A newly elected parliament met in January for the first time in two decades but apparently was not given oversight of the budget: The document was enacted before the legislature sat on Jan. 31, according to the Government Gazette. The gazette reported that 23.6 per cent of the budget this year, will go to defence. The health sector, meanwhile, will get 1.3 per cent. Myanmar has the 44th highest infant mortality rate of the 193 countries listed by the UNICEF in its 2011 State of the World's Children report.

>>See: <http://ca.news.yahoo.com/juntas-budget-myanmar-gives-nearly-24-per-cent-20110301-034626-801.html>

Thriving arms industry

From The Japan Times

February 27 - Global arms sales reached new heights, according to a recent report by a think tank in Sweden. Despite the global recession, the sales, both domestic and exports, of the world's most profitable arms-producing companies increased by nearly \$15 billion from 2008 to 2009, reaching a total \$400 billion in arms sales throughout the world — the highest amount ever. Other estimates put that figure as high as \$1 trillion. The report from Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) shows that the arms industry is thriving despite the ongoing global economic recession. American company Lockheed Martin took first place with \$33.4 billion in arms sales, followed by British BAE Systems at \$33.3 billion. Even as the recession hangs on in every country, more and more is still spent on the military.

>>See: <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/ed20110227a2.html>

Boeing seals \$30bn US defence deal

From AlJazeera News

February 25 - Boeing, the American aerospace firm, has won a \$30bn contract for 179 new US air force mid-air refueling aircraft, beating out Airbus's parent company, the European Aeronautic Defence and Space (EADS) company. The US defence department announced on

Thursday that the company was the "clear winner" in the fiercely contested competition to replace 50-year-old Boeing-manufactured KC-135 Stratotankers. The US deputy defence secretary, made the announcement at the Pentagon.. EADS expressed disappointment and concern about the decision.. The German government on Friday expressed doubt over the fairness of the contract award procedure..

>>See: <http://english.aljazeera.net/business/2011/02/20112257256795964.html>

US - Senior Lawmakers Wary of Nuclear Agency Budget Increase

By Martin Matishak, Global Security Newswire

March 2 - Budget constraints might make it difficult to grant the Obama administration's request to increase spending for operations to ensure the safety and performance of the nation's nuclear arsenal..

>>See:http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110301_9629.php

Workers at the Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico perform work on the Z machine, which simulates nuclear-weapon fusion reactions in support of U.S. nuclear arsenal upkeep and design efforts..The White House blueprint for the next federal budget calls for the National Nuclear Security Administration, a semiautonomous branch of the Energy Department, to receive a 5 percent funding hike to \$11.8 billion..

>>See: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110302_3607.php

U.S., European Weapons Makers Still Dominate Arms Bazaar

By Thalif Deen

March 3 - UN, Mar 3, 2011 (IPS) - The world's key arms manufacturers are still firmly entrenched in the United States and Western Europe, while some of the newly-emerging military industries in China, India, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Israel, Turkey and Kuwait are trailing mostly far behind. A new study released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) points out that only 10 of the world's 100 largest arms manufacturers are now based in Asia and the Middle East, with none in Latin America or Africa..

>>See:<http://www.other-news.info.php5-20.dfw12.websitetestlink.com/index.Php?p=3804>

Defence: A question of scale

By Richard McGregor & Daniel Dombey

March 6 - High above the Pacific en route to Beijing in January, Robert Gates let slip he was travelling to China bearing gifts – not for the country's rulers but for US commanders in the region. Mr Gates' staff soon fleshed out details of the plans – a new nuclear-capable bomber able to reach east Asia from the US, modernised radar for the F-15 fighter jet, a launch vehicle for sending satellites into space, and seaborne drone aircraft – aimed at countering China's own military advances. All this forms part of President Barack Obama's defence spending plans.

>>See: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/695f48d8-4823-11e0-b323-00144feab49a.html#axzz1 FubCaFxD>

China says it will boost its defence budget in 2011

From BBC News

March 4 - China is to increase its defence budget in 2011, amid fears in the region that its

military might is growing. Spending will increase by 12.7% to 601.1bn yuan (\$91.5bn; £56.2bn) up from 532.1bn yuan last year, officials said. Many analysts say China's actual spending on defence is far higher than the government reports. The announcement comes a day ahead of the annual National People's Congress, at which the Communist Party outlines its five-year plan. China has been building up its military in recent years; the defence budget was increased by 7.5% in 2010.. Chinese parliamentary spokesman Li Zhaoxing said the increase was justified, and China posed no threat to anyone.

>>See: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-12631357>

Security spending will be more than the combined budgets for healthcare, diplomacy and financial oversight.

>>See: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/f70936b0-4811-11e0-b323-00144feab49a.html#axzz1FubCaFxD>

An Irresponsible “Friendship”: Italy – Libya

From IPB

On 22nd February 2011 Gaddafi accused Italy of arming civilians against him; he was probably the victim of a delusion, since he himself is massacring civilians thanks to Italian weapons. In 2008 the Treaty of Friendship, Partnership and Cooperation signed between Italy and Libya normalized the unstable bilateral relationship between the two countries which started with the Italian colonization of Libya in 1911. The following IPB article analyses the links between this agreement and the arms trade from Italy to Libya. A total of €93 million of Italian weapons were exported to the Colonel from 2008, rising to almost €112 million in 2009..

>>See: [HERE](#)

>>See: [HERE](#)

Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Statement on the occasion of the 100th International Women’s Day

From WILPF, Reaching Critical Will

March 8 – Spending enormous amounts of money every year on militarism should not go without protest and must change. In 2008 the total world expenditure on militarism reached 1.5 billion dollars.. The same amount could cover 2,928 years of the budget of the new UN women’s agency, 700 years of the UN regular budget, and over 24 years of the additional foreign aid required to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. WILPF consistently asks: “What would you invest in?” Today was the annual International Women's Day statement at the Conf. on Disarm. and WILPF were allowed to make their own statement..

>>See: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/statements/IWDStatement2011.pdf>

BICC publishes global militarization index 2011

From Bonn International Center for Conversion

BICC has published the Global Militarization Index (GMI) 2011. The Index depicts levels of global militarization and documents the development since 1990. The study evaluates the development orientation of states and analyzes regional militarization. The GMI shows that the Middle East is the highest militarized region in the world. BICC's research outcomes shows the amount of funds being allocated to the military of one state and define the level of militarization of a country by the relation of military expenditure to its gross domestic

product (GDP) or other areas in society, such as health care..

>>See: http://www.bicc.de/uploads/pdf/press/2011/press-release-2011-02-28-GMI_eng.pdf

>>See: <http://www.bicc.de/our-work/gmi.html%3chttp://www.bicc.de/our-work/gmi.html>

B IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT

Libya: IPB condemns military strikes and urges political negotiations to protect the civilian population

March 21 - A new historical era opened three months ago with the popular uprisings in Tunisia and then Egypt, the first of the 'Arab spring' season. These rebellions brought hope to millions and youthful energy to societies suffering decades of repression, injustice, inequality, especially gender inequality, and increasing economic hardship. The Libyan revolt was inspired by these largely nonviolent victories, but, as the world has witnessed with dismay, has rapidly become militarized and is now embroiled in a full-scale civil war.

>>See: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/IPB-Statement-On-Intervention-In-Libya.pdf>

IANSA Women at Launch of UN Women - Speech by Executive Director Michelle Bachelet

Comment by Sarah Masters, Women's Network Coordinator, International Action Network on Small Arms, IANSA

On 24 February 2011, IANSA women Jasmin Nario Galace (The Philippines) and Martha Quintero (Colombia) were in front row seats at the launch of UN Women held in the General Assembly Hall at UN Headquarters. At least 4 out of 5 of the focus areas of UN Women clearly link with the work of the IANSA Women's Network, namely:

- 1) Expanding women's voice, leadership and participation;
- 2) Ending violence against women;
- 3) Strengthening women's full participation in conflict resolution and peace processes;
- 4) Ensuring gender priorities are reflected in national plans and budgets, including capacity to support CEDAW reporting.

>>See: <http://www.unwomen.org/2011/02/un-women-launch-remarks-by-usg-michelle-bachelet/>

Towards the Arms Trade Treaty

The second session of the preparatory committee for the UN Conference on an Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) met at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City from 28 February–4 March 2011. The purpose of the PrepCom is to make recommendations on the elements that would be needed to attain an effective and balanced legally-binding instrument on the highest possible common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms. The ATT is to be negotiated in July 2012.

>>See: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/legal/att/prepcom2/monitor.html>

Ablog, for this occasion was created:

>>See: www.attmonitor.posterous.com

A United Nations Arms Trade Treaty currently being negotiated can help India tackle rising terrorist violence and provide internal security.

>>See: http://www.cafi-online.org/press-detail.php?pr_id=30

The New Control Arms Campaign Bulletin

From Control Arms Campaign Steering Board

The new Control Arms Campaign Bulletin, one of the several tools soon to be available to build upon our efforts towards making possible the adoption of a strong and effective Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). The bulletin is in response to the decision by the Control Arms Campaign (CAC) to run an Interim Secretariat Group that is working in three streams: Global Campaign Communications, Mobilization and Outreach; Policy Legal Analysis and Strategy development; Preparation and Co-ordination of NGO participation and activities at the Preparatory Committee.. Here are the contacts, in order, for the three sections: cesar.marin@iansa.org, bwood@amnesty.org, amacdonald@oxfam.org.uk

Oxfam address to ATT PrepComm - arms trade, development and lack of transparency in spending

March 3 - Members of the Control Arms Campaign addressed the UN in New York, as part of the second session of the Preparatory Committee on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), on the effects of arms trade on development, containe: "There continues to be little transparency in the development of military budgets, and open, transparent conversations in parliaments and legislatures around the world. Defence and security budgets remain shrouded in secrecy, while ever-shrinking resource envelopes are allocated for national investment in poverty-reduction strategies, infrastructure, and social programming..."

>>See: http://iansa.org/system/files/ATTPrepCom_NGOpres_Oxfam_03.03.11.pdf

Anti-arms activists to petition 10 Downing Street "This is NOT OK"

From CAAT

On Wednesday 9 March, anti-arms trade campaigners called on the Prime Minister to end government support for arms sales and for the DSEi arms fair, scheduled to be held in London in September 2011. The action reflects widespread public revulsion at UK arms sales to despotic regimes in the Middle East and North Africa who have used UK weaponry against peaceful protesters. A recent YouGov poll for the Sunday Times showed that 76% of the British public thought it was wrong to sell arms to Libya. The petition is part of Campaign Against Arms Trade's campaign "This is NOT OK" that highlights the government's promotion of arms sales to repressive regimes and countries in conflict.

>>See: <http://www.caat.org.uk/campaigns/this-is-not-ok/>

Colombian women: "We Denounce the Militarisation of Our Lives"

Behrous Amiri, IPS interviews Patricia Guerrero of the Displaced Women's League

March 3 – Paramilitary groups in Colombia continue to threaten, harass and violently attack women's rights activists, says Patricia Guerrero, founder of a leading human rights group. Behrous Amiri spoke with Guerrero, who helped found the "City of Women" outside Cartagena in 2003, a space where women displaced by the fighting could evolve from victims to agents of change. Altogether, some 5.2 million people were forced to flee rural areas of this South American country between 1985 and 2010, according to a report released in February by the Consultancy on Human Rights and Displacement.

>>See: <http://www.ipsterraviva.net/UN/news.asp?idnews=54710>

Arm Sales, Especially by Russia and China, Continue to Penetrate Latin America

By COHA Research Fellow Alex Sanchez. Contributions by COHA Research Associates Karen Schwindt & Julissa Delgado

March 2 - Russian military sales have become so frequent in recent years that they no longer make for major headlines. However, as Washington policymakers continue to voice concern about Iran's growing influence in Latin America, some alarmists argue that Russia's eagerness to supply the region with weapons is likely to trigger a "soft arms race" and present itself as a threat to the United State's historic hegemony in the Western Hemisphere. Adherents to this point of view persist in looking at Moscow through a nostalgic Cold War lens that sees Russia (and probably China) as a growing and certain threat to U.S. national security. Little, if anything is heard of Washington concerns about other countries (like Israel or France) selling weaponry to the region..

>>See: <http://www.coha.org/arm-sales-especially-by-russia-and-china-continue-to-latin-america/>

Guns, war and the domestic battlefield

By Cynthia Cockburn

March 8 - The Small Arms Survey estimates there are currently around 900 million such weapons in circulation worldwide and that they cause around half a million deaths annually. These arms are produced by more than a thousand manufacturing companies located in nearly a hundred countries. Recorded world trade in SALW, including parts and ammunition, hovers at around \$300 billion a year. The USA is by far the biggest single exporting country, with more than three times the figure of its nearest competitor, Germany. Only a quarter of small arms and light weapons are thought to be in the armories of state security sectors, the remainder are in the hands of non-state militias or civilians. Three-fifths of the deaths they cause occur in armed conflict, while two-fifths take place far from the battlefield ..

>>See: <http://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/cynthia-cockburn/guns-war-and-domestic-battlefield>

India world's largest arms importer according to new SIPRI data on international arms transfers

From SIPRI

March 14 - India is the world's largest arms importer according to new data on international arms transfers published today by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). India received 9% of the volume of international arms transfers during 2006 –10, with Russian deliveries accounting for 82% of Indian arms imports. SIPRI Arms Transfers Database is accessible at www.sipri.org

>>See: <http://www.sipri.org/media/pressreleases/armstransfers>

According to the latest figures released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India has regained its position as the world's largest single purchaser of military equipment. As a result, India ranks ahead of traditional buyers in Asia and the Middle East, including China, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, South Korea, Israel, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates.

>>See: <http://www.ipsterraviva.net/UN/news.asp?idnews=54842>

CMC i Report "Clearing cluster bombs on the Ho Chi Minh Trail" wins!

From Cluster Munitions Coalition

March 15 - The CMC i report on cluster bombs in Laos has won the CNN iReport Community Choice Award, this means it is the top voted I report of the year – for the first I

reports awards ever! The CMC media team produced and distributed this video during the First Meeting of States Parties to the CCM in Vientiane last November, and it received around 9,000 views on the day it was posted. iReporter Sam Bolton investigated the lack of progress made to clean up unexploded bomblets from the Vietnam War. It has been more than 35 years since the end of the Vietnam War, and many countries such as Laos are still contaminated with millions of the bomblets, which are from the cluster bombs America dropped during the war.

>>See : <http://ireportawards.cnn.com/nominees/9>

Sweden: at the top in the list of arms exports per capita in 2010, before Israel and Russia

From Swedish Peace

March 15 - In 2010 Sweden exported military equipment for just over SEK 13.7 billion according to ISP statistics. Per person, this will be about 1500 dollars. "It is tragic to see that Swedish are at the top in the world arms sales," said Anna Ek, president of the Swedish Peace. "Export aid must be abolished. It is not fair that taxpayers are sponsoring the Swedish arms industry in its attempts to sell arms around the world," said Anna Ek.

>>See : <http://translate.google.se/translate?js=n&prev=t&hl=sv&ie=UTF-8&layout=2&eof=1&sl=sv&tl=en&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.svenskafreds.se%2Fsvenskar-saljer-mest-vapen&act=url>

Handicap International to Receive \$1.5 Million Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize

From Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

March 15 - Handicap International will receive the 2011 Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize of \$1.5 million. "In just three decades, Handicap International has transformed the way the world deals with persons with disabilities who have been overlooked and underserved, especially in emergency situations," said Steven M. Hilton, president and CEO of the Hilton Foundation. The 2011 Hilton Prize will be formally presented at a special ceremony at the Global Philanthropy Forum's 10th annual conference on April 13, 2011. Michelle Bachelet, the first Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, will be the keynote speaker for the prize dinner.

>>See : <http://www.hiltonfoundation.org/news/press-releases/40-prizenews/318-handicap-international-to-receive-15-million-conrad-n-hilton-humanitarian-prize>

IANSA Board appoints new Director

The Board of IANSA is delighted to announce that Dr Mirjana Dokmanovic has been appointed to become its new Director. Dr Dokmanovic is an expert in international public law, international human rights law, women's rights, media, gender and security, and was a founding member of the global network Initiative for Inclusive Security. She has been a consultant and researcher on international law, human rights and gender issues for a wide range of European and Global agencies and organisations. She is currently professor at the Interdisciplinary Research Centre in Gender Studies at the University of Novi Sad, Serbia.

>>See: www.iansa.org

2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

How much can we justify spending on nuclear weapons?

By Walter Pincus, Washington Post

March 14 - Is it not time to talk realistically about the \$200 billion or more we plan to spend over the next decade on strategic nuclear weapons and their land- and sea-based delivery systems? The threat of radioactive gases being released in the air from the Fukushima Daiichi unit 1 reactor caused the evacuation of everyone within the surrounding 12.5-mile area. This threat would seem minor in the face of what would be generated by an explosion in the area of a 100-kiloton nuclear warhead, which is the equivalent of 100,000 tons of TNT. The bomb dropped on Hiroshima was 12.5 kilotons..

>>See: http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/how-much-can-we-justify-spending-on-nuclear-weapons/2011/03/11/AB4J1pV_story.html

ICAN Europe launch and new staff

We are proud to announce the launch of ICAN Europe's new office and welcome Arielle Denis – Senior Campaigner, Daniela Varano – Communications Coordinator and Alexandra Reidon – Admin/Finance Officer. We hope that you will welcome and connect with them to take the campaign for a comprehensive global ban on nuclear weapons forward. ICAN – Europe will be hosted by the WILPF at I, rue de Varembe, Case Postale 28, 1211 Geneva 20. Please feel free to circulate this notice to other networks.

Contact: ICAN_europe@icanw.org

>>See: <http://www.icanw.org/node/5602>

Civil Society Challenges Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine

By Thalif Deen

February 24 UN (Inter-Press Service) - As the world's nuclear powers continue to drag their collective feet, stalling all attempts at nuclear disarmament, a group of peace activists and civil society organizations is vigorously challenging the long-held myth of "nuclear deterrence". Jacqueline Cabasso, executive director of the Western States Legal Foundation told IPS that members of the coalition agreed that the longstanding doctrine must be discredited and replaced with an urgent commitment to achieve global nuclear disarmament. "Before another nuclear weapon is used, nuclear deterrence must be replaced by humane, legal and normal security strategies," she said..

>>See: <http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=54602>

INLAP's new tool against nuclear weapons: Affirmations

From Institute for Law, Accountability and Peace

Nuclear weapons violate everything we stand for. They are engines of extermination. They are indiscriminate and totally unpredictable in space and time. We are not alone. At the 2010 NPT Review Conference 189 countries unanimously stressed the "catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons". The Swiss representative at the NPT said that "the continued existence of defence policies based on nuclear weapons only serves to prolong this irresponsible gamble with the future of humanity"..

>>See: <http://inlapwcp.webplus.net>

>>See: <http://www.nuclearweapons-warcrimes.org/>

3. MISCELLANEOUS

Japan Earthquake & Tsunami - solidarity message from IPB

March 11 - Colin Archer, IPB Secretary-General "Dear friends and colleagues, We are

watching the tragic events unfolding in your country with great concern. We fervently hope that you and your families are safe and sound. No doubt you will have friends or relatives in the affected area - we hope too that they have been able to escape the devastation. We know well the impressive sense of solidarity and good organization of the Japanese people. We are thinking of you all at this terrible time, and we pray that you will be able to return to normal life as soon as possible". *Our colleagues are safe - but now the biggest threat is represented by the Fukushima nuclear plant.* To donate and help:

>>See: http://www.peaceboat-us.org/2_new/110316/index.shtml

Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo). Postal Money Order: Account No.: 00110-9-1780. Account Name: Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo).

>> See: <http://www10.plala.or.jp/antiatom/en/index.html>

IPB member Peace Action launches new campaign: Tell President Obama: Peace in Afghanistan and Pakistan!

February 28 - The Obama Administration has entered into direct, secret talks with senior Afghan Taliban leaders, according to Steve Coll in an article, "US-Taliban Talks" in this week's The New Yorker Magazine. As further proof, he also quotes Secretary of State Hillary Clinton last Friday from a speech at the Asia Society, "And diplomacy would be easy if we only had to talk to our friends. But that is not how one makes peace."

>>See: http://www.newyorker.com/talk/comment/2011/02/28/110228taco_talk_coll#ixzz1EuYvhfpr

Candidate Obama has begun preparations for the 2012 elections. Eighty percent of Democrats and sixty percent overall do not believe the war is worth fighting. Those who helped elect the President must let him know, "Without a shift in your policy, it is hard to imagine the same kind of movement will develop to support your re-election campaign".

>>See: http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/161/p/dia/action/public/?Action_KEY=5957

Join the Obama Supporters for Peace in Afghanistan and Pakistan Petition Campaign

>>See: <http://www.peace-action.org/PetitionPeaceInAfPak.pdf>

In memoriam - Dr. Robert Muller

(1923-2010) In 1947, Dr. Muller began his career with the United Nations as an intern and 40 years later retired as Assistant Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. Dr. Muller helped shape many of the United Nations Programs and Institutions, and spent his entire life working for Peace. Dr. Muller continued to speak and write after his retirement and co-founded the UN University for Peace in Costa Rica. On September 20 on the eve of the International Peace Day, Dr. Muller died at the age of 87.

>>See: www.robertmuller.org

>>See: www.goodmorningworld.org

Oslo Nobel author publishes list of 55 peace prize nominees for 2011

March 3 - Four Americans, Richard Falk, David Krieger, Betty Reardon and Gene Sharp, and one Canadian, Douglas Roche, are among the ten eligible to be shortlisted for the Nobel prize, says Norwegian lawyer and author Fredrik S. Heffermehl, who despite strict secrecy has listed 55 likely nominees for the 2011 peace prize. Among the 24 nominees that Heffermehl considers clearly irrelevant to Nobel's peace vision he lists Bolivian president Evo Morales, human rights defenders such as Afghan Sima Simar, and ex Governor George

Ryan, Illinois, for opposing the death penalty.

>>See: <http://www.nobelwill.org>

In Memoriam: Susannah York, British actress and peace campaigner

The distinguished British actress Susannah York died of cancer on 15 January 2011. She was a long-standing peace campaigner and was active in CND, the Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu and the Movement for the Abolition of War. For tributes by Bruce Kent and Lesley Docksey go to MAW website:

>>See: <http://www.abolishwar.org.uk/news.php>

>>See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susannah_York

Saving the U.S. Institute of Peace: An Essential Investment in Peace Education in Uncertain Economic Times

By Tony Jenkins & Betty Reardon

The New York Times recently featured significant articles highlighting the important role of non-formal civilian education and training contributing to the nonviolent toppling of dictatorships in Tunisia and Egypt. Significant nonviolent political transformations are not likely to occur without the essential education and training of everyday citizens in the knowledge and skills of peacemaking, mediation and negotiation, conflict transformation, and nonviolent resistance. The February 18 vote in the US House of Representatives in favor of amendment 100 to HR 1 that will eliminate all federal funding for the U.S. Institute on Peace (USIP) is a tremendous mistake. The U.S. Institute of Peace was established in 1984 to provide "analysis, training and tools that prevent and end conflicts, promote stability and professionalize the field of peacebuilding" ..

>>See: http://www.change.org/petitions/save-the-united-states-institute-of-peace-house-voted-to-cut-all-funding#?opt_new=t&opt_fb=f

Ireland: Victory for Peace Movement in New Programme of Government

From Peace & Neutrality Alliance

The Peace & Neutrality Alliance (PANA) welcomes the statement in the new Labour/Fine Gael Programme for Government, promising to implement international law in terms of the use of Irish airspace and airports by foreign powers. Under the section Foreign Affairs, ODA and Defence, the Programme says: "We will enforce the prohibition on the use of Irish airspace, airports and related facilities for purpose not in line with dictates of international law." The new government will, like the Government of Switzerland, implement the Hague Convention, and terminate the use of Shannon Airport by US troops on their way to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

>>See: <http://www.pana.ie/index.html>

Bicycle Tour for Peace: Kazakhstan - Oslo, 2011

Bike for Peace is an organization based in Norway working for peace and our common environment, across the divisions of nation, language and culture. In 1999 Bike for Peace organized a trip from Beijing through China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Finland, Sweden and Norway - 11, 470 km. In total Bike for Peace has made 150 tours all over the world. This year's tour is from Kazakhstan - Oslo, via Russia, Estonia and Sweden: 3 August - 19 September 2011. Cost: 4000 Euro. Along the route we plan to arrange meetings with politicians, schools, institutions for disabled, peace and bike organizations, mass media..

>>See: www.bikeforpeace.no

>>See: <http://centralasianewswire.com/International/Kazakhstan-asked-to-lead-global-nuclear-disarmament-effort/viewstory.aspx?id=2066>

Nimble UN, global partners needed to build stability in post-conflict States – report

From UN News Centre

March 7 –The report of the Senior Advisory Group for the Review of International Civilian Capacities, calls for the UN to look beyond its own staff to draw on the full range of global capacities, working closely with Member States and civil society through a new mechanism for civilian partnerships to mobilize the skills needed for a whole range of tasks, from building the rule of law to creating jobs to providing basic services. “The journey from war to sustainable peace is not possible in the absence of stronger civilian capacity,” Group Chairman Jean-Marie Guéhenno, former UN Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, writes in a letter presenting the report to Mr. Ban..

>>See: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=37700&Cr=post-conflict&Cr1=>

>>See: <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90777/90856/7311452.html>

>>See: <http://www.humansecuritygateway.com/showRecord.php?RecordId=34878>

International Ecumenical Peace Convocation launched in Jamaica

From World Council of Churches

The IEPC was officially launched at a ceremony in Kingston, Jamaica on 15 March organized by the Jamaican Council of Churches and the Caribbean Council of Churches, hosts of the IEPC. The launch was meant to call attention to the IEPC which will be held on the Mona campus of the University of West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica from 17 to 25 May this year. IEPC will recognize the work done during the decade to overcome violence, and renew their commitment to nonviolence, peace and just peace. Speakers at the IEPC include Martin Luther King III. Jamaican government officials, including the governor general of Jamaica and the prime minister, are expected to attend the opening on the afternoon of Wednesday 18 May. More than 1,000 people from around the world are expected to attend the week-long event.

>>See: <http://www.overcomingviolence.org/>

>>See: www.overcomingviolence.org/sunday

4. RESOURCES

BMI Defense & Security Report - Russia

March 2 - The collapse of the Soviet Union left the Russian Federation with the majority of the ailing defense industry. By 1991, 70-80% of the Soviet defence industry was based on Russian soil. However, key aspects of the Soviet Union's integrated defence system became unavailable to Russia. Missile early warning systems and air-defence capabilities had been sited outside Russian borders..The sheer size of the military-industrial complex meant that Russia was saddled with an inefficient behemoth, with some 9mn employees working in up to 1,500 state-owned research, design and production facilities. The challenge for the government has been to privatize as much of the industry as possible, while retaining control over the more sensitive, high-technology sectors..

>>See: http://store.businessmonitor.com/defence/russia_defence_and_security_report

A SAVING REMNANT: The Radical Lives of Barbara Deming and David McReynolds (former IPB Vice-President)

By Martin Duberman, The New Press

Martin Duberman, known as “the father of gay studies,” is a distinguished historian, playwright, essayist, novelist, and public intellectual, and any new book by him is an event in queer culture to which attention must be paid. David McReynolds was a staff member of the War Resisters League from the late 1950s to 1999 and is a major figure in the US anti-war movement. He was an IPB Vice-President from 1983-89 and since then has remained as a Consultant. Barbara Deming, from a rather different background, was also a writer and a key member of the US nonviolent movement. This double biography focuses on their gay identities, but as McReynolds says: "It belongs in the broader history of part of the American radical movement in the last century".

>>See: http://www.gaycitynews.com/articles/2011/03/02/gay_city_news/community/doc4d6eaa0bbe793005415317.txt

Yearbook on Peace Processes

This sixth edition of the **Yearbook of Peace Processes** analyses conflicts in which negotiations are being held to reach a peace agreement, regardless of whether these negotiations are formalised, are in the exploratory phase, are faring well or, to the contrary, are stalled or in the midst of crisis. It also analyses some cases in which negotiations or explorations are partial; that is, they do not include all the armed groups present in the country (such as the case of India, for example). The majority of the negotiations refer to armed conflicts, but we also analyse quite a few contexts in which, despite the fact that there are no considerable armed clashes today, the parties have not reached a permanent agreement that would put an end to the hostilities and conflicts still pending. In that sense, the negotiations make sense in an effort to fend off the start or resurgence of new armed clashes.

>>See: http://escolapau.uab.cat/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=241%3Aanuario-de-procesos-de-paz-2011&catid=67%3Aanuarios&Itemid=119&lang=en

**International Peace Bureau • 41 rue de Zurich • 1201 Geneva • Switzerland •
Tel: +41-22-731-6429 • Fax : +41-22-738-9419 • mailbox@ipb.org • www.ipb.org**

This Newsletter is edited by Chiara Zanette. If you have any queries or suggestions, please, contact her at chiara.zanette@ipb.org