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The Calendar is available as a separate document

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.

A. MILITARY SPENDING

GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION ON MILITARY SPENDING

NEW DATE: 12th APRIL 2011

Because of the global economic crisis, some governments are beginning to talk about cutting military spending. But they won't sustain these cuts 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 are 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 invitation letter at: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/GDAMSpending-Letter-17-Sept.pdf>

US spy spending revealed for first time, tops \$80 billion

By Pam Benson

October, 28th — The United States spent \$80 billion on spy activities in 2010, the first time the government has officially announced the total tab for intelligence spending. The military spent an additional \$27 billion on its intelligence apparatus, said Pentagon spokesman Col. Dave Lapan.

>> See <http://edition.cnn.com/2010/US/10/28/us.spy.spending/?hpt=T2>

US confirms \$60bn plan to sell Saudi Arabia arms

From BBC

October, 20th — US officials have confirmed they intend to sell \$60bn (£38bn) of arms to Saudi Arabia, including helicopters and jets. If completed, it could be the most lucrative single arms deal in US history and could support 75,000 jobs.

>> See http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-11587348?utm_source=twitterf

UK Defence review: Cameron confirms 8% spending cuts - CND welcomes Trident reductions

From BBC

October, 19th — Unveiling the strategic defence review, PM David Cameron said defence spending would fall by 8% over four years. The RAF and navy will lose 5,000 jobs each, the Army 7,000 and the Ministry of Defence 25,000 civilian staff. There would be no cuts to support for troops in Afghanistan. Mr Cameron also vowed to push ahead with replacing Britain's Trident nuclear missile system but said their replacement would be scaled back, with the number of warheads per boat cut from 48 to 40, as part of a £750m package of savings.

>> See <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-11570593>

>> See http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-11570593?print=true#story_continues_1

Mouvement de la Paix cyber petition to reject the 2011 military budget

From Mouvement de la Paix- France

November — Members of Parliament are asked to vote on November 4th a defence budget of more than 31 billion Euros (excluding pensions). This budget is the result of the French reintegration into the NATO military command and the voting of the 2010-2013 military program law, which will allocate 186 billion Euros to defence. The *Mouvement de la Paix* invites us to take action and refuse this war budget: signing a cyber petition that will be sent to your MP or senator; asking for an appointment with your MP; and other actions.

>> See <http://www.mvtpaix.org/outils/infos-paix/2010/cybermanifBudget2011.htm>

Justice and Peace letter to Catalonia's President re arms projects

From IPB member Justice and Peace – Study Centre for Peace J.M. Delàs

The Study Centre for Peace J.M. Delàs wrote a letter to the Catalonia's President to ask him not to support two new military projects in Catalonia: the candidatures that two Catalan companies have presented in order to produce Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and VBR armoured units (both of them are currently used in the Afghanistan war). The Study Centre for Peace reminds the Catalan President that these projects are against the Peace Promotion Law (passed by this Government the 4th of July, 2010) that commits the Government to the promotion of a culture of peace and the seeking of the global disarmament and demilitarization. The Study Centre for Peace J.M. Delàs also argues that the military investment does not contribute to the country's development, and that it is not the way to tackle the financial crisis.

>> See http://www.centredelas.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=586:carta-al-sr-montilla&catid=43:industria-i-comerc-darmes&Itemid=64&lang=en

Can We Disarm to Develop?

From Disarmament Times

In 2009, global military spending rose to an all time high of \$1531 billion. In the same year, overseas development aid fell short of promised levels at \$119.6 billion, representing just 7.8 percent of annual military spending. To meet the Millennium Development Goals set by the world's leaders in the year 2000 will require innovative new programs, but more than that, it will require significant new funding.

>> See <http://disarm.igc.org/images/PDF/dt.2010.3.mdgs.pdf>

Scientists Call for Axe to Fall on Nuclear Weapons Research

From Pressenza

October, 14th — 36 science professors have today written to the British Prime Minister calling on him to protect core scientific research by cutting investment in developing new nuclear weapons. The scientists highlight how £2bn a year, over 25% of the government's total scientific research and development budget, is currently spent by the Ministry of Defense. Dr Stuart Parkinson, Executive Director of Scientists for Global Responsibility who coordinated the letter said, "It's completely irrational to cut scientific research into medical and environmental problems whilst pouring billions of pounds of research money into facilities for designing new nuclear warheads."

>> See <http://www.pressenza.com/npermalink/scientists-call-for-axe-to-fall-on-nuclear-weapons-research>

>> See <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2010/oct/13/military-research-science-cuts-scientists>

>> See <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/oct/13/cut-military-research-not-science-funding>

Defence cuts people but spends on gadgets

By David Cronin

October, 31st — With military spending being shrunk in many EU countries, the European Defence Agency (EDA) is strenuously advocating that governments should “compensate” for cutbacks by focusing on improving their technological capabilities. Speaking in early October, the EDA's deputy chief executive Carlo Magrassi identified the development of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) – also known as pilotless drones - as a priority for his team. Just because these weapons are remote controlled doesn't mean our governments won't have blood on their hands.

>> See <http://www.neurope.eu/articles/Defence-cuts-people-but-spends-on-gadgets/103501.php>

Blood and Treasure --The Costs of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars

By Tom Hayden

October, 13th — The White House and Pentagon worry about the political costs if the American people learn the true costs of Iraq and Afghanistan in terms of casualties and taxpayer dollars. In this bulletin are the best estimates that have been hidden from the public, as for example: total US soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan: 5,748; direct costs/month in Iraq: \$12.5 billion; direct costs/month in Afghanistan \$16 billion; total direct cost, Iraq: \$737.5 billion; total direct cost, Afghanistan: \$354.4 billion; total projected direct and indirect costs, Iraq: \$3 trillion+; total projected direct and indirect costs, Afghanistan: \$1 trillion+.

>> See <http://www.opednews.com/Diary/TOM-HAYDEN-and-others-repo-by-Kevin-Anthony-Stod-101014-740.html>

Azerbaijan Announces another Surge in Military Spending

From Asbarez

October, 13th — The Azerbaijani government's defence budget for next year calls for \$3.1 billion in expenditures. News reports from Baku quoted Azerbaijani Finance Minister Samir Sharifov as saying that this represents an almost 90 percent rise from this year's spending level. The defence spending has already skyrocketed over the past decade.

>> See <http://asbarez.com/86660/azerbaijan-announces-another-surge-in-military-spending/>

The City of Geneva adopted the "Principle of socially responsible investing"

October, 12th — In a move to promote "socially responsible investing", the Administrative Council decided to adopt an "ethical charter" establishing socially responsible investment principles. The Charter will guide the investment strategy of Geneva and will exclude any investment in nuclear power, arms trade or pornography.

>> See (in French) <http://www.ville-geneve.ch/actualites/detail/article/ville-geneve-adopte-principe-investissement-socialement-responsable/>

U.K., France Team Up Amid Military Cuts

By Andrew Chuter and Pierre Tran

October, 25th — On Nov. 2, the Royal Navy base at Portsmouth will play host to an Anglo-French summit whose primary focus will be joining forces to preserve military capabilities and industrial skills. Prime Minister David Cameron and President Nicolas Sarkozy would develop ideas for cooperation in logistics, doctrine, training, procurement of UAVs and other systems, emerging issues such as cyber security, and high-readiness joint formations for operations.

>> See <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=4965015&c=FEA&s=CVS>

UNGA debates disarmament-development

October, November — The First Committee (Disarmament and International Security) of the United Nations General Assembly opened on 4 October and will continue until the beginning of November. [Country statements](#) and a range of [side events](#) reflect the new opportunities and continuing challenges to achieving the vision of a nuclear-weapons-free world. Reports on these are published in the [First Committee Monitor](#). A number of [draft resolutions on disarmament](#) were submitted to the UN First Committee last week. Voting on resolutions was scheduled to start on 26 October and to continue for 4-5 days. The draft resolution on Disarmament and Development can be found at: <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/political/1com/1com10/res/L13.pdf>

B IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT

First-ever Cluster Munition Monitor released!

From Mines Action Canada

November, 1st — November 1st marks the release of the 2010 *Cluster Munition Monitor*. This is the first *Cluster Munition Monitor* report, the sister publication to the *Landmine Monitor* report, which has been issued annually since 1999. The new publication reflects the increased monitoring of the cluster munition issues. Starting in 2010 the *Landmine* and *Cluster Munition Monitor* will produce three publications: [Country Profiles](#), [Landmine Monitor](#), and [Cluster Munition Monitor](#).

>> See <http://www.industrymailout.com/Industry/View.aspx?id=234529&q=251357617&qz=52b3be>

Swiss referendum on small arms control

October, 13th — The left-wing initiative "For the protection against armed violence" wants to oblige the storage of weapons in secure locals and to forbid the retention of assault rifles after the military service's end. It also demands the creation of a national firearms registry, the prohibition of automatic firearms and shotguns possession, and a stricter definition of arms licence.

>> See <http://www.tdg.ch/initiative-armes-peuple-votera-13-fevrier-2010-10-13>

C GENERAL

Blackwater still in the dock, but for how long?

By Luke Heighton

October, 27th — Reports of the possible collapse of attempts to prosecute the notorious, North Carolina-based Blackwater Worldwide company come at a time of renewed focus on the role of contractors in territories administered or formerly administered by the US and its coalition allies.

>> See http://www.opendemocracy.net/opensecurity/security_briefings/271010?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_content=201210&utm_campaign=Nightly_2010-10-28%2005%3a30

US Building Super Military Base On Guam

From Telegraph.co.uk

October, 25th — The US is building an £8 billion super military base on the Pacific island of Guam in an attempt to contain China's military build-up. The expansion will include a dock for a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, a missile defence system, live-fire training sites and the expansion of the island's airbase. It will be the largest investment in a military base in the western Pacific since the Second World War, and the biggest spend on naval infrastructure in decades. However, Guam residents fear the build-up could hurt their ecosystem and tourism-dependent economy. An EPA's report said the build-up would "exacerbate existing substandard environmental conditions on Guam".

>> See <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/australiaandthepacific/guam/8085749/US-to-build-8bn-super-base-on-Pacific-island-of-Guam.html>

Climate change could lead to Arctic conflict, warns senior NATO commander

From The Guardian

October, 12th — Global warming and a race for resources could spark a new 'cold war' in the Arctic, US naval admiral James G Stavridis warns ahead of key talks on environmental security. "For now, the disputes in the north have been dealt with peacefully, but climate change could alter the equilibrium over the coming years in the race of temptation for exploitation of more readily accessible natural resources," said Stavridis.

>> See <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/oct/11/nato-conflict-arctic-resources>

>> See <http://www.heatisonline.org/contentserver/objecthandlers/index.cfm?ID=7844&Method=Full>

U.S. Military Orders Less Dependence on Fossil Fuels

From The New York Times

October, 4th — With insurgents increasingly attacking the American fuel supply convoys that lumber across the Khyber Pass into Afghanistan, the military is pushing aggressively to develop, test and deploy renewable energy to decrease its need to transport fossil fuels.

>> See <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/05/science/earth/05fossil.html?hpw>

2. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Latin American Mayors unanimous in support global nuclear weapons ban by 2020

From Mayors for Peace

October, 17th — The Mayor of Hiroshima received unanimous support from Latin American Mayors during his visit to the Latin American 'Semana del Municipalismo' in Buenos Aires, Argentina. On Wednesday October 13th FLACMA (Federación Latinamericana de Ciudades, Municipios y Asociaciones de gobiernos locales) signed an agreement with Mayors for Peace in support of the campaign to eliminate all nuclear weapons by 2020.

>> See <http://2020visioncampaign.org/>

Mr President we've lost control of FIFTY nuclear warheads....

By Daily Mail Reporter

October, 28th — Obama's arsenal hit by 45-minute computer glitch. Pentagon chiefs were stunned to discover that a U.S. air force base had lost control of 50 nuclear, inter-continental missiles.

>> See <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1324190/Obama-told-nuclear-arsenal-hit-45-minute-glitch.html?ito=feeds-newsxml#ixzz13dtH3p00>

U.K. to Reduce Nuclear Warhead Numbers

From NTI Global Security Newswire

October, 20th — Under the newly released Strategic Defense and Security Review -- a comprehensive analysis of British armed forces spending -- the current generation of Vanguard-class submarines would each carry 40 warheads rather than today's 48. That would result in a reduction of the country's arsenal of operationally ready nuclear weapons from 160 to 120, according to AFP. The United Kingdom would see its entire strategic arsenal reduced from 225 nuclear weapons to a maximum of 180 warheads by the middle of the next decade. Cameron also announced he would delay "until around 2016" a final decision on implementing a \$30 billion plan to modernize the nation's nuclear forces by replacing each of the four Vanguard ballistic missile submarines.

>> See http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20101020_1151.php

Join Peace Boat in Creating a Nuclear-Free World!

From Peace Boat

January, April, 2011 — Since 2008, Peace Boat has been carrying out a nuclear weapon abolition initiative called "Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project." Under this program, Hibakusha (survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki) are invited to join Peace Boat Global Voyages in order to share their testimonies with others around the world and add strength to the momentum growing around the world in favor of nuclear abolition. Peace Boat's next Global Voyage for a Nuclear Free World Hibakusha Project will take place during its 72nd Voyage, from January 23-April 18, 2011, with 10 survivors expected to join. Peace Boat will select approximately five young people to participate in its next project and become "Messengers" to help sustain and spread the Hibakushas' memories and objectives.

>> See www.peaceboat.org

Former Russian leaders say nuclear arms cuts no longer enough for global security

From Rianovosti

October, 14th — Nuclear disarmament must be pursued but real global security will happen only through a "deep reorganization" of the international system that prioritizes cooperation among states in addressing modern threats, a group of influential former Russian policymakers has said. In an article to be published on Friday in the Izvestia daily, former prime minister Yevgeny Primakov, former foreign minister Igor Ivanov and two other top Russian strategic thinkers argue that the logic behind nuclear disarmament was at times an obstacle to broader action better-adapted to today's security realities.

>> See <http://en.rian.ru/features/20101014/160956546.html>

3. MISCELLANEOUS

Civil society diplomats at the UN, as SC debates women, peace and security

By Lyric Thompson

October, 29th — As the Security Council met to debate women, peace and security and 10 years of progress in implementing SCR 1325, about 100 women in white T-shirts inscribed with the words "Put Peace Women at Peace Tables: Implement 1325 Women Peace and Security NOW!" gathered outside the United Nations.

>> See http://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/lyric-thompson/civil-society-diplomats-at-un?utm_source=feedblitz&utm_medium=FeedBlitzEmail&utm_content=201210&utm_campaign=Nightly_2010-10-30%2005%3a30

In memoriam - Hermann Scheer: German Lawmaker, Leading Advocate of Social Energy and "Hero for the Green Century"

October, 14th — We are mourning the death of Hermann Scheer, an extraordinary person and politician. Hermann Scheer – President of the European Association for Renewable Energy (EUROSOLAR), Chairman of the World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE), winner of the Alternative Nobel Prize and Member of the German Bundestag – died on 14 October 2010 in Berlin. He was 66 years old. His sudden death is a blow to us all.

>> See http://www.hermannscheer.de/en/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

>> See <http://www.recycle.co.uk/news/2700000.html>

>> See http://www.democracynow.org/2010/10/15/hermann_scheer_1944_2010_german_lawmaker

4. RESOURCES

IPB conference Oslo – speeches and photos now on website

October — More complete collection of materials from the IPB's Nobel-Centenary conference, "A Climate of Peace" held last month in Oslo, is now available in our website.

>> Here are the speeches given by different contributors: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/IPB-OSLO-CONFERENCE-SPEECHES.pdf>

>> IPB Council statement on the occasion of the centenary of IPB's Nobel Peace Prize: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/IPB-Council-26092010-Nobel-centennial-statement.pdf>

>> Conference Photo Gallery (Created by Alexander Harang):

<http://gallery.me.com/alexanderharang#100211&bgcolor=black&view=grid>

IPB on Facebook!

Now IPB is on Facebook too! In the Facebook site there is information about IPB news, events, but also interesting resources, articles, photos, and other news.

>> See <http://www.facebook.com/ipb1910>

Northeast India Women Initiative for Peace- 1st November 2010 Issue Newsletter

November, 1st — Women's groups in Northeast India have developed many a powerful programme of direct, non-violent, action designed to confront the fire of insurgency that has for long engulfed this strategic region since the late 1940s. In India's northeast, women have always played a major role in many peace and social movements. We, the women of Northeast India need to make ourselves understand the issues of war, conflict, peace. Only through our joint, continued and persistent efforts peace would one day follow. For this and more, here is the positive news of the last two months from Northeast India and rest of the world.

>> See <http://neiwip.blogspot.com/p/newsletter.html>

PRIO Gender, Peace and Security Update September Issue

September — This monthly newsletter is published by the PRIO Gender Team to mark the 10th Anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in October this year. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide updated information about 'Women, Peace and Security' (WPS) related issues internationally, as well as in Norway.

>> See <http://www.prio.no/sptrans/-1150170/PRIO%20GPS%20Update%20September%20Issue.pdf>

UNODA Disarmament Education: Video Library

By United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

October — Did you know that there are currently 10 educational films featured in UNODA's "Disarmament Education" Video Library? For example:

- An Unrecognized Loss: Message From Hiroshima
- CTBT: For a Safer and More Secure World
- The Final Frontier: Explorers or Warriors?
- Flashes of Hope: Hibakusha Traveling the World
- Genie In A Bottle Unleashed
- Hibakusha, Our Life To Live
- Nuclear Weapons and the Human Future
- Testimonies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Women Speak Out For Peace

>> See <http://www.un.org/disarmament/education/Movies/>

New Publication from the Small Arms Survey - 'Small Arms in Brazil: Production, Trade, and Holdings'

By Pablo Dreyfus, Benjamin Lessing, Marcelo de Sousa Nascimento, and Júlio Cesar Purcena, a joint publication of Viva Rio, ISER, and the Small Arms Survey.

October — It is not difficult to find evidence of Brazil's high levels of armed violence. The proof is in the grim statistics of the country's hospitals, morgues, and prisons. This Special Report looks at two aspects of this problem. First, it explores the thriving Brazilian small arms industry, which, together with international trafficking networks, contributes to control failures and fuels small arms violence. Second, it maps out weapons holdings—by weapon type, holder, and location.

>> See <http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/fileadmin/docs/C-Special-reports/SAS-SR11-Small-Arms-in-Brazil.pdf>

**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 Teresa Macià. If you have any queries or suggestions, please, contact her at teresa.macia@ipb.org