

VFP Spokane Report Back SAY NO TO NUKES Picket and Rally Oct 14 2022



Dear Affinity Groups, Members & Friends of Veterans For Peace Spokane #35;

Thank you, as always, for support and participation in our efforts Peacefully Working For Peace! We held a Picket and Rally in conjunction with <http://www.DefuseNuclearWar.org> and <http://www.UNAC.org> in coalition with local affinity colleagues who are also aware of the dangerous and suicidal threats of use of nuclear weapons in the confrontation of Great Power countries. There is no "win-win-win" scenario for this confrontation. The only outcome that benefits Humanity is for all geopolitical actors to immediately STAND DOWN and resolve ideological and socioeconomic conflicts with diplomatic discussion and resolve.

To that end our Spokane Friday Coalition developed a strategy and held an event to "Say No To Nukes" at the Foley Federal Courthouse on October 14th. Enclosed please find photos and statements from the rally that lead our local community to recompose and reignite the worldwide PEACE MOVEMENT that is critical at this moment in human history.

Information packets were left at Senator Patty Murray's and Representative McMorris-Rodgers' offices at 10 N. Post in Spokane. The sidewalk in front of the Peyton Building was briefly occupied for a photo op. Simultaneously, music from the 1960s peace movement was broadcast across the Thomas Foley Federal Courthouse Plaza, compliments of Boomer Bandstand. Security Awareness was provided by Peace Keepers from the Peace & Justice Action League of Spokane.

Opening remarks by George Taylor, VP of Spokane Veterans For Peace, and Nick Braune of the Dorothy Day Labor Forum began the Say No To Nukes Picket & Rally at 4:00 PM. Damian Badboy sanctified the gathering with a prayer and a song. Speakers addressed the 50 person gathering as to the importance of expressing core values for the wellbeing of Humanity. Tom Charles from VFP defined our present danger from nuclear confrontations. He was followed by Professor Majid Sharifi from EWU speaking about the dangers of NATO activities worldwide and the confrontation of war activities by powerful militarized forces. City Council President Breean Beggs congratulated efforts to continually pursue the good for our community.

The famous anti-war song "Masters of War" by Bob Dylan was performed by Todd Milne and broadcast throughout the entire Foley Plaza.

Brief comments were then made by several of the organizational representatives. Val Carlton and Teresa McCann spoke on behalf of Pax Christi. Justice Forral spoke for Spokane Community Against Racism (SCAR), Anthony Cossette spoke for Spokane Democratic Socialists of America, Zachary McGuckin spoke for Party for Socialism & Liberation, Eastern WA Region..

After closing remarks, and the announcement of further actions on October 24th, now under development, Damian gave a prayer and a song for safe travels. Todd Milne then played a bamboo flute bringing sweet, soft sounds to downtown offering a Peaceful Community.



Spokane Veterans For Peace Picket at Senator Murray and Representative McMorris-Rodgers' offices.



George Taylor, VP of Spokane VFP and Nick Braune of Dorothy Day Labor Forum were MCs for the rally.



Damian Badboy prays and sings as the rally gets underway.



Tom Charles of VFP discusses the great costs of war preparations and losses for social programs.

NEGOTIATE
GIVE PEACE
A CHANCE



Professor Majid Sharifi addresses the Defuse Nuclear War rally



Spokane City Council President Breean Beggs calls for activists with clear core human values to persist.

Beggs announces a first reading and testimony for passage of a Spokane City Council Ordinance declaring our city a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone on October 24th, with a vote on November 7, 2022.



Teresa McCann and Val Carlton speak on behalf of Pax Christi of Spokane.



Justice Forral speaks; Spokane Community Against Racism



Anthony Cossette speaks for Spokane Democratic Socialists of America



Zachary McGuckin speaks for Party for Socialism and Liberation of Eastern Washington region.



Linda Braune with DDLF



