



VETERANS FOR PEACE Semi-weekly eNews



VFP eNews | November 2, 2023

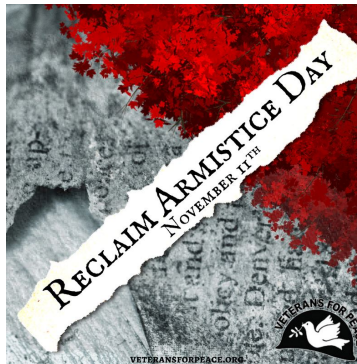
ATTN: VFP Members

Tomorrow, Nov. 3, is your last chance to VOTE!

Be sure and send in your ballot for board members! All members can now vote on board members as well as resolutions. If your membership is active, you will have received an email with a link to your electronic ballot on October 3. If you can't find it, please email shelly@veteransforpeace.org. General information about this year's ballot can be found on our website under [2023 Ballot](#).

GET BALLOT INFO

Reclaim Armistice: Honor Veterans By Advocating Peace



The U.S. Federal holiday observance of Veterans Day is on Friday the 10th this year, giving us an extra day to be out and about with Armistice messaging, spreading the word that peace is indeed possible. **There are so many ways to commemorate Armistice Day:** Make a banner statement, march in a parade, throw your own parade, get your church to ring its bells, organize or join in a solemn remembrance ceremony, write a letter or an op-ed, screen a film, lay down your arms... **Get immersed in all things Armistice by clicking on the red button below.**

GET INSPIRED

Join VFP for a Special Livestream Screening of *What I Want You to Know* a new doc featuring voices of post-9/11 war veterans



LIVESTREAM EVENT FOR VFP MEMBERS

Sunday, November 12, 2023 • 2:00 PM (Eastern Time)

(Livestream link to follow.)

What I Want You to Know is an award-winning documentary featuring the stories of 13 veterans who were deployed to U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. With searing candor, these veterans share personal stories from their deployments, asking questions like, *Why were we lied to? What was it all for? and What's to stop it from happening again?*

Screening to be followed by discussion with producer-director, Catie Foertsch about how to arrange screenings for VFP chapters and members.

Visit the film website to find a [list of other screenings](#) and a [contact form](#).

WATCH FILM TRAILER

PROJECT UPDATE

Climate Crisis & Militarism Project (CCMP)



Help CCMP Spread Our Message with these Cool Stickers!

Sometimes when we table at events, folks who decline a brochure or flyer will eagerly take one or more of our small stickers with the message **U.S. MILITARISM FUELS CLIMATE CRISIS**. Recently inducted steering committee member Ellen Barfield—flag bearer in tie-dye in above photo—reported great success distributing the stickers at climate marches in DC and NYC. *Thanks, Ellen!*

CCMP's "merchandise man," Barry Riesch, is selling the stickers and will gladly send you a roll of 250 for \$35 plus postage. Want some? Please email Barry at climate@veteransforpeace.org and he will get them right to you.

CCMP takes on the twin existential crises of war/militarism and climate.

Ways to support our project:

- Download, print, and share our [DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCES](#).
- Order CCMP t-shirts, tote bags, and cups at the [VFP STORE](#) (great gifts for your climate-concerned loved ones).
- Help fund our project work: [DONATE HERE](#), specifying CCMP in the 'additional comments' section after the 'payment information' step.

Thanks in advance for your support!

DOWNLOAD RESOURCES

Daniel Ellsberg Celebration of Life

If you missed the online memorial and celebration of the life of Daniel Ellsberg when it was livestreamed by the Ellsberg family on October 22, the recording is now available to watch online. The

program starts at 15:40: [CLICK HERE TO WATCH.](#)

Photo of Dan is by Christopher Michel, @ChrisMichel



VFP Responds to Crisis in Gaza



LEFT: Iraq veteran Gabrielle Murphy holds a VFP flag at a Ceasefire Rally on the Binghamton University campus in New York on October 25, 2023 [photo: Scranton Times]. RIGHT: Jack Gilroy, a member of Stu Naismith VFP Chapter 90, spoke at the rally [photo: Gary Ingraham].



VFP's Ann Wright was among CodePink activists who interrupted yesterday's Senate hearing where two of President Joe Biden's top advisers asked U.S. lawmakers to provide billions more dollars to Israel.

Veterans For Peace members and chapters have been busy responding to the attack on Israel and the ongoing genocide in Gaza – by getting in the streets, occupying Congressional offices, writing letters to newspapers, publicly sharing photos and videos, and **demanding a Ceasefire and humanitarian aid by signing our Call to Action in support of HR 786. PLEASE JOIN THEM AND CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE RIGHT NOW!**

VFP is an endorser of the ANSWER Coalition's national March for Palestine, taking place in D.C. this coming Saturday, November 4.

PLEASE SEND US your photos and videos of VFP members in action. Email them to: vfp@veteransforpeace.org.



Chris Velazquez ¡Presente!

It is with heavy hearts that we relay news of the passing of former Veterans For Peace national staffer Chris Velazquez.



On Sunday, October 29, 2023 (9:00pm Jerusalem | 3:00pm New York) the **Combatants for Peace** and **American Friends of Combatants for Peace** community gathered for "**Solidarity: A Path to Liberation.**" This conversation was led by two Palestinian activists, Rana Salman and Souli Khatib, and two Israeli activists, Eszter Koranyi and Avner Wishnitzer. The discussion was moderated by the Director and Producer of ***Disturbing the Peace***, Stephen Apkon, and A'ida Shibli, Palestinian Bedouin activist and co-worker at the Tamera biotope in Portugal. [WATCH THE RECORDING](#)

Check out this 11-minute video – [Why Russia Fears the West: And How that Fear Feeds the Merchants of Death](#). Lots of food for thought packed into this short film written by VFP member Jack Gilroy, and directed, edited, and narrated by Quintin Casella.

Jeannette Rankin: Champion of Persistence is a one-woman show about our first elected U.S. Congresswoman. Jeannette was a suffragist, pacifist and militant crusader for social justice. Her story resonates with Veterans For Peace. J. Emily Peabody, creator and performer of this show, is traveling with it and is particularly interested in promoting the show on local campuses, to engage more youth in the peace movement. MORE INFO: [Thorn Productions](#).

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Last day for VFP Members to VOTE

{ see note at top of this email }

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3 • 8–9:30 PM EST

Running Up To War Against China War Industry Resisters Network Webinar


The U.S., along with its client states in the Pacific, is gearing up for war with China. The accelerated arming of Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and Australia is setting the stage for an existential catastrophe for all of humanity. It is a heyday for the war profiteers and a nightmare in the making for the rest of

us. In this webinar, speaker K.J. Noh will analyze how, why, and with what effect these war preparations are taking place. Spoiler alert: The root cause is U.S. imperialism. [REGISTER HERE.](#)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

National March on Washington for Palestine

Tens of thousands of people from across the country are expected to converge in Washington, D.C. for this mobilization. VFP is an endorser. Gather at 2:00 PM for rally at Freedom Plaza, to be followed by a march. For logistics including housing, parking, public transit, go [HERE.](#)



GIs for Peace AND THE Antiwar Movement

Join us for two programs that explore the support of the wider antiwar movement for active-duty service members who opposed the Vietnam War.

PROGRAM ONE "Thank You for Your Service (for Peace)"
Thursday, November 9, 6 p.m. EST

This program offers a different twist to Armistice Day commemorations by recalling the tens of thousands of service members who opposed war and militarism during the Vietnam War and the civilians who helped them. Introduced and moderated by David Cortright, Vietnam era GI activist, scholar, author of *Soldiers in Revolt* (1975 & 2000) and co-editor of *Waging Peace in Vietnam: U.S. Soldiers and Veterans Who Opposed the War* (English 2019, Vietnamese language edition 2023).

Panel of activists:

- **J.J. Johnson**, a member of the Ft. Hood Three who refused orders for Vietnam in 1966 in one of the earliest acts of collective GI resistance to the war
- **Susan Schnall**, Navy nurse who was court-martialed for helping to organize an antiwar march of soldiers and civilians in San Francisco in 1968, currently President of Veterans For Peace
- **John Kent**, a former Navy fighter pilot who turned in his wings rather than fly combat missions in Vietnam and helped to organize the Concerned Officers Movement
- **Kathy Gilbert**, executive director of the National Lawyers Guild Military Law Task Force, a specialist on GI rights who was active in the antiwar movement and helped to provide legal aid for GI organizing
- **Paul Lauter**, former Chicago Region Peace Education Secretary of the American Friends Service Committee and executive director of the U.S. Servicemen's Fund, which provided support for GI collectives, underground newspapers, and organizing projects




PROGRAM TWO Films of the GI Antiwar Resistance
Wednesday, November 29, 8 p.m., EST

Moderated by Paul Lauter, former director U.S. Servicemen's Fund

A panel of filmmakers discussing their role in producing films on the scale and impact of the GI movement, the role of artists in supporting antiwar soldiers, and honoring helicopter pilot Hugh Thompson who tried to halt the killing and rescue civilians in the midst of the My Lai massacre.

- **Jane Fonda**, producer/performer of *FTA* (1972)
- **Holly Near**, musical artist and performer for *FTA*
- **David Zeiger**, director of *Sir No Sir* (2000)
- **Corinne Field**, director of *The Whistleblower of My Lai* (2018)

Please watch the films before the November 29 program. *FTA* and *Sir No Sir* are available on Netflix. *The Whistleblower of My Lai* is available on Vimeo. The images below are links to Kino Now or Vimeo, where each movie is available to stream for a rental fee.

For speaker bios, and to register, go to:
<https://vnppeacecomm.blogspot.com/2023/10/civilian-support-for-gi-resistance.html>

[REGISTER HERE](#)

GIs for Peace & the Antiwar Movement

The [Vietnam Peace Commemoration Committee](#) has just announced two special panel events, happening in November. Click on the flyer to download a PDF with all the details.

Thursday, November 9 • 6 PM EST

"Thank You for Your Service (for Peace)"

This program offers a different twist to Armistice Day commemorations by recalling the tens of thousands of service members who opposed war and militarism during the Vietnam War and the civilians who helped them. Panelists include VFP Board President Susan Schnall.

Wednesday, November 29 • 8 PM EST

Films of the GI Antiwar Resistance (panel)

A panel of filmmakers discussing their role in producing films on the scale and impact of the GI movement, the role of artists in supporting antiwar soldiers, and honoring helicopter pilot Hugh Thompson who tried to halt the killing and rescue civilians in the midst of the My Lai massacre.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Armistice Day



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Merchants of Death War Crimes Tribunal

Livestreamed Opening Session

The Merchants of Death War Crimes Tribunal will hold accountable — through testimony of witnesses — U.S. weapons manufacturers who knowingly produce and sell products which attack and kill not only combatants but non-combatants as well. These manufacturers may have committed Crimes Against Humanity as well as violated U.S. Federal criminal laws. The Tribunal will hear the evidence and render a verdict. [INFO & REGISTRATION HERE](#)

THURS–SAT, NOVEMBER 23–25

World BEYOND War Regional Peace Conference

Imagine Africa Beyond War

The objective of this regional conference is to strengthen the collaboration amongst WBW Chapters and allies in Africa and worldwide and envisage World BEYOND War's blueprint for an alternative security system as the approach to imagine Africa beyond war. [INFO & REGISTRATION HERE](#)

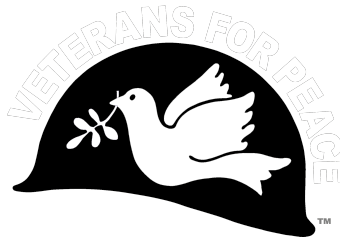
LOOKING FORWARD

July 15–August 19, 2024

Poor People's Army March

Also known as the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign, the mission of the nonviolent Poor People's Army is to keep people alive and to build a cooperative economy and society. Endorsed by Veterans For Peace, the two-week Poor People's Army March will go from Mikwaukee – site of the Republican National Convention (July 15) – to Chicago – site of the Democratic National Convention (August 19). The march will deliver the same message to both conventions: ***"We reject corporate greed and demand an end to poverty."***

Keep Us Strong!



DONATE TODAY

Help Us Grow!

follow us



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