

**MAY 1, 2005: NYC**  
**NO MORE NUCLEAR**  
**EXCUSES FOR WAR!**

**NO NUKES! NO WARS!**



# **WHY DEMAND NUCLEAR ABOLITION NOW?**

**In the midst of the ongoing  
slaughter in Iraq, why focus on a  
call for nuclear abolition?**

*“America must not ignore the threats gathering against us. Facing clear evidence of peril, we cannot wait for the final proof – the smoking gun – that could come in the form of a mushroom cloud.”*

- President Bush outlines Iraqi Threat, 10/7/02



**BUT**

**No “Weapons of Mass Destruction”  
(nuclear, biological or chemical)  
were found in Iraq.**

## *Did you know?*

- The current U.S. nuclear stockpile is estimated at 10,350 warheads.
- Approximately 5,300 are operational with another 5,000 in reserve.
- 480 operational U.S. bombs are deployed at eight bases in six NATO countries, for delivery by U.S. and NATO bombers.

# U.S. Nuclear Excuses for War

- Following the 9-11 attacks, the Bush Administration openly declared the potential first use of nuclear weapons – *even against those countries that don't have them.*
- The Bush Administration's January 2002 Nuclear Posture Review plans for the first use of nuclear weapons in response to non-nuclear attacks or threats involving biological or chemical weapons or “surprising military developments,” and targets countries including *Iran, North Korea and Syria.*

## *Did you know?*

- In the run up to the U.S. attack, a “Theater Nuclear Planning Document” was drawn up for Iraq.
- During the 1990s, the U.S. threatened to use nuclear weapons against Iraq, North Korea, and Libya.

## *Did you know?*

- By equating nuclear chemical and biological weapons with nuclear weapons, the U.S. is lowering the threshold for nuclear use.
- Chemical and biological weapons, while terrifying and capable of killing in a gruesome ways are difficult to use and hard to control.
- It is difficult to deliver sufficient quantities of chemical or biological weapons to kill thousands of people.



# BUT

- Nuclear weapons are more destructive by orders of magnitude. A single modern warhead can destroy a city in an instant, killing hundreds of thousands – or even millions of people.
- There are still enough (approximately 30,000) in the world's arsenal to destroy human civilization in a day.

*Nuclear weapons are the only true weapons  
of mass destruction*



## *Did you know?*

- The United States is the only country that has used nuclear weapons in war. In August 1945, the U.S. dropped 2 atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, causing approximately 210,000 deaths by the end of that year.
- Delayed effects included cancer, chromosomal aberrations (birth defects), immunologic disorders, orphans, destruction of traditional society, devastation of community life and social system, and lasting psychological traumas.

***“The dropping of the nuclear weapons is a problem that must be addressed globally. History is written by the victors. Thus, the heinous massacre that was Hiroshima has been handed down as a perfectly justified act of war.”***

- Mayor Takashi Hiraoka of Hiroshima, to the International Court of Justice, 1995



- Charred boy 700 meters from the hypocenter, Nagasaki, Japan.

# Health & Environmental Costs of Nuclear Weapons

*“While no nuclear weapons have been detonated in war since Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a kind of secret, low-intensity radioactive warfare has been waged against unsuspecting populations...”*

- Dr. Bernard Lown, co-founder International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, 1985 Nobel Peace Prize winner

## *Did you know?*

Indigenous and minority people have borne the brunt of health and environmental damage caused by uranium mining, nuclear weapons testing and production wherever it has taken place.

# Environmental Justice

- Thousands of Navajo uranium miners have died and suffered from lung cancer and other radiation-induced diseases.
- The U.S. exploded more than 900 nuclear weapons on Western Shoshone land, seized by the U.S. government in 1951 to create the Nevada Test Site in violation of the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley.

## *Did you know?*

- Atomic Veterans: An estimated 235,000 U.S. servicemen were subjected to radioactive fallout from U.S. nuclear tests in the Pacific Ocean and Nevada – without their consent.
- Radioactive and toxic contamination from nuclear weapons activities has damaged the health of tens of thousands of workers and people living near nuclear weapons facilities in the United States and other nuclear weapons states and has put at risk our earth and water.



# Fact

At U.S. nuclear weapons research, testing and production sites across the country:

*“...radiological and non radiological hazardous wastes will remain, posing risks to humans and the environment for tens of even hundreds of thousands of years. Complete elimination of unacceptable risks to humans and the environment will not be achieved, now or in the foreseeable future.”*

- National Academy of Sciences (2000)

# Costs of War

*“Every gun that is fired, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed. The world in arms spending is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, and the hopes of its children.”*

- General Dwight Eisenhower, 1953

## *Did you know?*

During 2003, world military spending rose by 11 percent, in real terms, reaching \$956 billion. *“The main reason for the increase in world military spending is the massive increase in the United States, which accounts for almost half of the world total.”*

- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

# The U.S. Military Budget

- More than eight times larger than that of China, the second largest military spender (\$51 billion).
- More than 29 times as large as the combined military spending of the seven states the U.S. identifies as “rogues” (Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Libya, North Korea, Sudan and Syria – total \$14.4 billion).
- More than the combined military spending of the next 23 nations.

# Costs of the Iraq War

- The President's fourth “supplemental” spending request for the Iraq war will add \$80 billion to the more than \$151 billion already appropriated.
- *It is time for us to demand that the Administration and Congress stop perpetuating the cycle of violence in Iraq, stop sending soldiers and civilians to their graves, and stop diverting precious resources that could be used to rebuild Iraq and fund critical domestic needs.*

## *Did you know?*

- U.S. combatants killed in Iraq: **more than 1,500**
- U.S. combatants wounded: **more than 11,644** (official); **15,000 – 20,000** (estimated)
- Iraqi combatants killed March 30 – May 1, 2003: **7,600 – 10,800**
- Iraqi combatants wounded: **unknown**
- Iraqi combatants killed and wounded since the end of “active hostilities”: **many thousands more**

# Civilian Deaths

- Iraq Body Count has counted 17,384 – 19,770 *reported* Iraqi civilian deaths to date.
- The Lancet, a respected British medical journal, estimated that more than 100,000 Iraqi civilians have died as a result of the war.
- The Lancet also found that the risk of death by violence for civilians in Iraq to be 58 times higher than before the U.S.-led invasion.

# Economic Costs

- Estimated long-term cost of war to every U.S. household: **\$3,415.**
- Average monthly cost of Iraq War: **\$5.8 billion.**
- Average monthly cost of Vietnam War, adjusted for inflation: **\$5.2 billion.**



# **The \$151 billion already allocated for the U.S. war could have purchased:**

- Housing vouchers for **23 million families OR**
- Health care for **27 million uninsured Americans OR**
- **3 million** new elementary school teachers **OR**
- Two years worth of: food for half the hungry people in the world **AND** a comprehensive global AIDS treatment and prevention program **AND** clean water and sanitation throughout the developing world **AND** childhood immunizations for all children in the developing world

-Institute for Policy Studies

**Astonishing fact: The U.S. spent  
*\$5.5 trillion dollars* on nuclear weapons  
from 1940 – 1996**

Nuclear weapons costs exceeded the combined total federal spending on:

- education, training, employment, social services
- agriculture, natural resources and the environment
- general science and space research
- community and regional development, law enforcement
- energy production and regulation

- Atomic Audit, the Brookings Institution, 1998

# Current Nuclear Weapons Spending

- U.S. nuclear weapons spending has grown by 84% since 1995 – six years after the Cold War ended.
- This year the U.S. will spend nearly \$7 billion to maintain and modernize nuclear warheads, useable for decades to come, and many billions more to modernize their means of delivery (ground-based missiles, submarines, and bombers).
- Altogether the U.S. is spending about \$40 billion a year on its nuclear forces.

# Amazing but true!

The additional cost of achieving and maintaining universal access to basic education for *all*, basic health care for *all*, reproductive health care for *all women*, adequate food for *all* and clean water and safe sewers for *all* is roughly \$40 billion a year – *roughly equal to the U.S. nuclear weapons budget.*

– United Nations Development Report 1998

# Which countries have nuclear weapons?

- The **United States** and **Russia** have by far the largest nuclear arsenals and most sophisticated means of delivering them to targets anywhere on earth. Each still deploys thousands of weapons on high alert, capable of destroying any country and killing tens of millions.
- **Britain, France** and **China** each have hundreds of modern nuclear weapons, and long-range missiles to deliver them.

# Which countries have nuclear weapons?

- **India** and **Pakistan** both tested nuclear weapons in 1998. With their militaries facing each other down across a long common border, they are locked in a new nuclear arms race in a region that could grow more unstable in the wake of the Iraq war.
- **North Korea** now claims that it has nuclear weapons, but we don't know for sure. North Korea has not tested a nuclear weapon and has not successfully tested any missiles that could reach the U.S.

## *Did you know?*

In 1994, President Bill Clinton planned and was close to carrying out a pre-emptive (non-nuclear) strike on Nuclear Korea's nuclear reactors.

# Which countries have nuclear weapons?

- **Israel's** nuclear arsenal has been called the world's "worst kept secret." The only country in the Middle East with nuclear weapons, Israel is believed to have several hundred modern nuclear weapons that can be delivered by plane and by missile.
- In 1981, Israel bombed an Iraqi nuclear reactor.



## *Did you know?*

At the end of the first Gulf War, in 1991, the Security Council stated that its requirements for the elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction “*represent steps towards the goal of establishing in the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and all missiles for their delivery...*”

*It's all connected!*



## *Did you know?*

- Under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) the U.S., Britain, Russia, France and China are required to end the arms race and eliminate their nuclear arsenals.
- This obligation was interpreted as applying to *all* states by a unanimous opinion of the International Court of Justice in 1996.

# The NPT

- Entered into force in 1970.
- Requires the original 5 Nuclear Weapon States (NWS) to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.
- In exchange, all other states parties agreed not to acquire nuclear weapons.
- Only 3\* countries remain outside the NPT: India, Israel and Pakistan (\*N. Korea).

# BUT

- The U.S. has failed to live up to its end of the bargain, instead selectively accusing other countries of violating their pledge not to acquire nuclear weapons – *and even threatening to use nuclear weapons against those states!*
- **This hypocritical international double standard is dangerous and unsustainable.**

# Atoms for Peace?

- Under the NPT, countries that agreed to forgo nuclear weapons were promised “peaceful” nuclear technology.

**BUT**

- Nuclear power supplies the technology and radioactive materials needed to make nuclear weapons. *Nuclear power powers the bomb!*

## *Did you know?*

- The 44 countries with nuclear reactors are potentially capable of developing nuclear weapons.
- Those with the most advanced capabilities include U.S. allies like *Japan, Germany, Australia, the Netherlands and South Korea* – as well as Iran and North Korea.

# *Think Globally, Act Locally*

- Located just 40 miles from Ground Zero, in the most densely populated region of the country (20 million people live within a 50-mile radius), the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant in Buchanan, NY is a risk to women, men, children, the environment, and the financial stability of the U.S.
- *To abolish nuclear weapons, nuclear power must be phased out and replaced with clean, renewable, sustainable energy sources.*



**Do you recognize this symbol?**



## *Did you know?*

- The universally-recognized “peace symbol” was designed in 1958 for the *Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)* in Britain.
- The first badges were made of clay.
- They were distributed with a note explaining that in the event of a nuclear war, these fired pottery badges would be among the few human artifacts to survive the nuclear inferno.

# Good News!

- A recent poll found that most Americans think nuclear weapons are so dangerous that NO country should have them.
- Two-thirds of Americans say no nation should have nuclear weapons, including the U.S.

- The Associated Press, 3/31/2005

*Why are we demonstrating on May 1?*



# Why are we demonstrating on May 1?

- On May 2, world leaders, mayors and people from around the world will converge on the UN for a 5-year review conference of the endangered NPT.
- Inspired by the aging survivors (“hibakusha”), the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are leading an international delegation of mayors to the NPT Review Conference to demand the immediate commencement of negotiations on a verifiable treaty to eliminate nuclear weapons worldwide.

# **Why are we demonstrating on May 1?**

At least 1000 committed Japanese peace activists, including dozens of hibakusha, will be coming to New York, as well as delegations from many other countries. *They're depending on us to help carry this message to the nations of the world:*

**The best and only way to stop the spread  
of nuclear weapons is to abolish them  
everywhere!**

# *Think Globally, Act Locally*



- Citizens in New Delhi protesting after India conducted 5 nuclear test explosions in 1998.

# **OUR DEMANDS**

- **END THE WAR IN IRAQ AND BRING THE TROOPS HOME NOW!**
- **FUND HUMAN NEEDS, NOT WAR!**
- **NO MORE NUCLEAR EXCUSES FOR WAR!**
- **NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT BEGINS AT HOME!**
- **ABOLISH ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WORLDWIDE!!**



**NO NUKES! NO WARS!**

**JOIN US!**

**United for Peace and Justice**

*The largest anti-war coalition in the U.S.*

[www.unitedforpeace.org](http://www.unitedforpeace.org)

**Abolition Now!** [www.abolitionnow.org](http://www.abolitionnow.org)

*A campaign of the Abolition 2000 Global Network to  
Eliminate Nuclear Weapons*

# The End

- PowerPoint presentation prepared by Jackie Cabasso,  
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