Arlington West is a tribute not only to the fallen U.S. soldiers, but also to the countless innocent Iraqi citizens.

Every Sunday Veterans For Peace erect temporary cemeteries in Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, Oceanside and other locations around the United States.

Over 1,700 crosses, a flag-draped coffin, and a 20-foot board listing the names of the dead servicemen and servicewomen invite the public to honor these unacknowledged fallen, and to ponder the cost of war. Visitors may write the name of the dead on a slip of paper, and along with fresh flowers, place them on a cross.

A separate sign informs: “If we were to honor the Iraqi Dead, it would fill this entire beach.”

Arlington West has been built every Sunday since February 2003, and will continue to be built until the war ends in Iraq.

The goal of Arlington West is “to honor the fallen and the wounded from the Iraq War, to provide a place for Americans to grieve and to encourage dialogue about America at war.”

On March 29-31, 2005, the American Friends Service Committee brought the “Eyes Wide Open” presentation to Sacramento. The exhibit speaks directly to our hearts—reminding us of the human cost of war and honoring the sacrifice of all who have died in the Iraq war. The exhibit has visited over 40 cities with extensive local, national and international media coverage. Over 1,000 boots are tagged for the US war dead, empty shoes and a Wall of Names represent the Iraqi civilians killed.

Grandmothers for Peace International co-sponsored the Sacramento event. We had ten volunteers helping at the exhibit. Because of rain, the first day was indoors at Trinity Cathedral in downtown Sacramento. The display had “only” the California casualties—about 150 boots on display, along with hundreds of civilian shoes representing the dead Iraqis. When I walked in the door that morning I gasped, with tears flooding my eyes, and thought “I won’t be able to stay.” But, as I gained my composure I walked among “The Boots,” the empty boots.

Sunny days brought the full exhibit to Capitol Park in Sacramento, in sight of our Capitol building and next to the All Wars Monument. Roberta Penrose and her husband Richard walked among the boots and related this experience. “We were there the last day and near two women who were placing a remembrance on the boots. A man came up to them and said ‘is that your son?’ One replied, ‘no, it’s my granddaughter, and her great granddaughter.’ He said, ‘my son is over here.’ All I could manage to get out was ‘I’m so sorry’ and they said ‘thank you.’ It will be with us for a very long time.”

I urge you to come to this exhibit. It is heart wrenching, but it is necessary for you to see for yourself the human cost of war. Of course we know the cost, but seeing the exhibit makes it so real. The visuals are heartbreaking; the impact is astonishing. Please remember this is what we, Grandmothers for Peace, are about. We must break the cycle of violence and war, seek peaceful conflict resolution, and strive to live in peace—for a better, safer world for the future.

(Ed: See pg. 10 to order the Arlington West video.)
Columbia, Maryland
Deborah Matherly

Bette Hoover, who traveled with Mothers for Peace USA, reported on her recent trip to the Women to Women for Peace Conference in England. She told us the people of Yorkshire are very aware that the intelligence gathered from major communications (spy) facilities there (staffed almost entirely with US personnel) is going back to Maryland.

The conference included representatives from Japan, who are very concerned that the Japanese government, with US urging, is attempting to change the 9th Article of its constitution. That article specifically disavows warfare and avows peace, and precludes Japanese troops from fighting in Iraq. The women of Japan are seeking support from peace-loving people in the US and elsewhere to help them preserve this peaceful legacy resulting from the violence of World War II.

Also discussed at the conference was the desire to promote formation of the US Department of Peace. The bill will be resubmitted by US Representative Elijah Cummings of Maryland and others on September 13th. Great Britain has a Ministry of Peace- as do other nations.

Elaine Andrews and I reported on the May 21st Wilde Lake Festival. In addition to information both locally and nationally.

On the national front, we discussed the idea of working with other groups to establish a day (perhaps the Saturday before Mother’s Day) to gather at military recruiting stations to present alternative material to potential recruits. (Ed: www.thepacealliance.org for US Department of Peace information.)

New York City, New York
Joan Wile

Grandmothers Against the War, the New York City affiliate of Grandmothers for Peace International, has a vocal group called the New York Granny Chicks. We were invited to perform January 18, 2005, for the Martin Luther King Day celebration at Holy Name Church in Manhattan. It was a HUGE success! Our greatest yet. There were about 120 people, including Father Berrigan. At the end, we got a standing ovation.

Between songs, I gave this speech:

I founded Grandmothers against the War in November 2003 because I could no longer bear to read the daily toll of Iraqi and American casualties, who were being slaughtered and maimed for a war I considered, to quote Martin Luther King’s words about Vietnam, “Unjust, abominable and evil.” I believed it was time to do more—to attempt to help make a dent in the concrete wall of deceit and misconception that separated President Bush from reality and which enabled him to continue his criminal policy of decimating a sovereign nation which had meant us no harm.

Thus began a year of vigils, which we hold every Wednesday in front of Rockefeller Plaza on Fifth Avenue. It is hard to know specifically what we accomplish by these actions, but I am convinced that our being there radiates positively in many unseen ways. Hundreds of foreign tourists pass us each week, and often stop and thank us. They reveal their disdain for the war and their hope that we can turn it around. Many Americans do the same. We believe it is important to send the message here and around the world however we can, that there is a resistance in America to these destructive policies, and we feel certain that our little vigil helps accomplish that.

London, England
Jean Stead

In the past few months, our GFP have been in the news.

Helen John, a campaigner against Menwith Hill the American “listening post” for the Star Wars project, has been banned from entry to the United States. She applied to have it lifted so she could attend the United Nations nuclear non-proliferation talks, but her case has been delayed due to a backlog of court cases. During the past General Election, Helen ran on an anti-nuclear platform and gained votes and publicity for her cause. She stood with Parliament against Tony Blair.

In early July, Helen and many other grandmothers attended a mass demonstration at Faslane base in the west of Scotland where submarines carrying the Trident nuclear weapons are based.

One of our long-standing members, Raymonde Hainton, attended a meeting in Exeter, to sign a nuclear-free world petition that was to be presented at the New York Non-Proliferation Treaty talks by Bruce Kent. At the Exeter meeting, Hilda Sperry, the Lord Mayor of Exeter, signed the petition on behalf of the Exeter nuclear-free local authority.

Raymonde also attended a United Nations Association meeting at the ancient city of Bath where a panel of University academics spoke against nuclear proliferation. Trident is due to be replaced by a new generation of nuclear weapons. A regional paper published a letter from Raymonde pointing out that replacement of Trident would be incompatible with Britain’s original agreement to support the elimination of nuclear weapons.

◆ PLEASE SEE CHAPTER NEWS, PAGE 3

Grandmothers for Peace International
Meet Lindis Percy: 150 arrests and 5 jail terms

Lindis Percy, 64, has campaigned non-violently and peacefully against nuclear weapons for nearly 30 years. She has been arrested more than 150 times, 30 in the past year, and served five jail terms. Her main campaign is against Menwith Hill, occupied since 1966 by the U.S. National Security Agency, and reportedly the biggest communications and satellite eavesdropping post in the world.

Along with Anni Rainbow, Lindis formed CABB, the Campaign for the Accountability of American Bases. It is “grounded in a deep concern and opposition to weapons of mass destruction in general and nuclear weapons in particular ... raising public awareness, scrutiny, and accountability of American bases in the UK.”

In May 2005, Lindis faced sentencing for the recent conviction of five offenses of obstructing traffic outside MH. At the May sentencing, there was the possibility she would be the first peace campaigner to be served an anti-social behaviour order (ASBO). The government has been trying to use ASBOs to intimidate and restrict the right to protest. However, Judge Anderson dismissed the attempt stating: “the law clearly intended the orders to be used obstructing traffic outside MH. At the May sentencing, there was the possibility she would be the first peace campaigner to be served an anti-social behaviour order (ASBO). The government has been trying to use ASBOs to intimidate and restrict the right to protest. However, Judge Anderson dismissed the attempt stating: “the law clearly intended the orders to be used...

In another non-Menwith Hill protest, Lindis was arrested Nov. 17, 2003, after climbing the 20-foot-high gates at Buckingham Palace to protest President George Bush’s state visit. She clung there for over two hours before voluntarily coming down.

Lindis is married to a Church of England chaplain, has three children and six grandchildren. She is a registered nurse and midwife, but “I actually now work as a Health Visitor (equivalent to Public Nurse in the US).” Jean Stead sent a very generous cheque which I say thank you so much for. Can’t do this work without support in so many ways.”

Contact: email: caab@btclick.com; percy@lindisandchriss.freeserve.co.uk; website: www.caab.org.uk

(STEPS ACROSS THE OCEAN TO PEACE)

BY JOAN WILE

The Grandmothers Against the War affiliate in New York City has made some valuable connections with two Japanese women through its weekly vigils in front of Rockefeller Plaza on Fifth Avenue. Since it is one of the main tourist centers of the City and attracts people from all over the world, quite often Japanese visitors stop and talk with us.

Recently, a Japanese woman named Kazuko Tataki spoke with us and then returned to Japan where she wrote a letter about the vigil which was published in a major Japanese newspaper. This is her letter, in her own translation:

Granma Against the War Want to Communicate

from Kazuko Tataki (housewife, Izumi ward, Sendai, 49 yrs.)

May 12

I had a chance to know the group of

To the British people:

Grandmothers for Peace send our concern, regrets, and sympathy for the July 7th attacks in your city of London.
Darfur, Sudan: “Never Again”— Is Again

In 1994, the world stood by and watched as the Rwandan genocide claimed one million lives. Afterward, world leaders vowed that genocide would never again happen.

Sadly, they were wrong. Genocide is occurring once again in the Darfur region of Sudan. Government-backed Arab militias, called Janjaweed, are targeting the ethnically African population of Darfur. To date, over 400,000 people have died and more than 2.5 million people have been displaced.

The violence in Darfur began in February 2003 when two rebel groups, frustrated with discrimination and poverty, led an insurgency against the government. Fearful that the rebellion would encourage others to follow suit, the Sudanese government launched a scorched earth campaign to silence the rebels.

Millions of people have since been forced to flee as their homes and villages were destroyed. The Janjaweed terrorize the region with murder, rape, and torture. Those in the refugee camps face malnutrition, starvation, and disease due to the lack of basic healthcare and sanitation.

Violence against Women:

The situation on the ground is especially dangerous for women. Rape is the signature crime of this genocide, and the UN has said it is being used as a “systematic weapon of war.” The attacks are not isolated crimes of opportunity but part of a deliberate campaign to destroy the social fabric of the entire community. As a weapon of genocide, rape is used in three ways—to impregnate women with children who are not ethnically African, to ostracize unmarried women so that they can’t begin families, and to damage women’s bodies so they are unable to have children.

Women—from young girls to grandmothers—are raped and gang-raped during attacks on their villages and as they attempt to flee. Women who reach the relative safety of refugee camps are susceptible to further attacks as they leave the camps in search of water and firewood. Many women and girls are abducted and forced into sexual slavery in Janjaweed camps. Women are often raped in front of their families and neighbors, leaving survivors with extreme emotional damage in a society that shuns rape victims.

The African Union Peacekeepers:

While many organizations provide aid to the victims of the genocide, the African Union (AU) is the only group providing protection for the people of Darfur. Where AU peacekeepers are present, violence is lessened; when humanitarian convoys come under fire, AU peacekeepers come to their aid. In particular, AU peacekeepers prevent further rape by escorting women when they leave refugee camps in search of water and firewood.

However, the AU lacks sufficient resources to protect all civilians in need. While the AU has deployed 3,200 peacekeepers to Darfur, the International Crisis Group (ICG) estimates that 12,000–15,000 peacekeepers are needed to adequately protect the civilian population in Darfur, a region the size of Texas.

The Genocide Intervention Fund:

Recognizing the world’s repeated failure to stop genocides, the Genocide Intervention Fund (GIF) aims to help people keep the promise of “never again.” The GIF’s current campaign for Darfur combines fundraising for the African Union peacekeepers with education and advocacy efforts. By engaging citizens and pressuring international governments, the GIF reminds people of their responsibility to help protect victims of genocide. After only a few months, GIF has raised nearly a quarter of a million dollars, mainly donated by concerned citizens.

What You Can Do to Help:

The details of the crimes being committed in Darfur are heartbreaking. But although the situation is bleak, it is far from hopeless. Everyone can and must take the initiative to prevent further violence against the people of Darfur. There are many things you can do to help bring an end to the genocide:

- Organize an awareness event in your community.
- Hold a fundraising event for the African Union Peacekeeping Mission.
- Organize a letter writing campaign to urge your Congressperson to co-sponsor the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, H.R. 3127.

The Genocide Intervention Fund urges you to help end the violence in Darfur. Please visit our website at www.GenocideInterventionFund.org to learn more about these and other ways to take action and to sign up for our monthly newsletter.
On Friday, February 25, 2005, I lost a dear friend. Actually, we all lost a friend. Bill Corrigan was one of our best. He spoke out for peace and justice, never with anger but with joy and hope. Bill went to jail for two months in 1995 for his beliefs, as a prisoner of conscience protesting the School of the Americas. Up until the very last months of his life he and Lil would protest the war in Iraq on the Square in Marietta, GA.

I met Lil and Bill when I lived in Georgia, right after Bill went to prison. Our friendship continued throughout our years in Georgia and continues today with Lil between phone calls, mail, and faxes. The strength and faith of both of them inspires me always.

Our Community Speaks out Against War was held May 1st at the State Capitol, Sacramento, CA. Several of us were asked to speak about how war harms people. Obviously the war hurts us: nearly 2,000 dead Americans and 10’s of thousands of Iraqis; over $180 billion and counting spent for this war built on lies; and over $180 billion and counting in losses!

In early March 2005, I traveled with Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Janice Freeman of S O A W a t c h Sacramento and Leisa Barnes, Prisoner of Conscience. We were gone for four days.

Director’s Notes

Grandmothers for Peace International
BY LORRAINE KROFChek

Grandmothers for Peace developed the enclosed information booklet about recruiters after a meeting several months ago at an Elk Grove, CA, Peace and Justice gathering where Sacramento Veterans for Peace presented their “alternatives to the military” - the presentation they give to local high schools.

Military recruiters are relentlessly targeting young students for enlistment. Federal public law 107–110, section 9528 of the ESEA, “No Child Left Behind” requires school districts to release student names, addresses, and phone numbers to military recruiters upon their request. The military uses this information to recruit students. The law also requires the school district to notify you of your right to Opt-Out from this by requesting that the district not release your information to military recruiters. The completion and return of an Opt-Out form serves as your request that private information be withheld. However, many times the Opt-Out information is buried within a “welcome” book distributed at the beginning of the school year.

Recruiters get home phone numbers, go to teen “hangouts,” take young people out to eat, and make promises that can not be kept. In a case that made national news, a recruiter in Houston told a young “possibility” that if he did not come in for his appointment interview he would be arrested. Fortunately, the call was recorded on the young man’s answering machine.

In June it come to light that for the past 2-3 years, the Pentagon has been working with the private marketing firm BeNow, Inc. of Wakefield, Mass. to create a huge database of million of high-school students, aged 16 to 18. The database includes names, dates of birth, genders, addresses, Social Security numbers, e-mail addresses, ethnicity, telephone numbers, and even grade point averages. The purpose, according to a Defense Department statement, is “to assist” in “direct marketing recruiting efforts.”

Students have the right to Opt-Out and not be subjected to recruiters’ interviews. This is NOT anti-military; it is anti-the Bush Agenda of aggressive actions against the world. The troops are being used as cannon fodder by the current administration! There are no better words to describe this than in a quote by George Main, President of Veterans for Peace, Sacramento, CA: “I support our troops and their sacrifices. I do not support sacrificing our troops.”

After consultation and fine tuning, Marjorie Boehm, Shirley O’Key and myself came up with this booklet version.

It has been extraordinarily well received in just a short time. Please copy it, use it, take it, distribute it and let people know they have the right to opt out their children from being interviewed by military recruiters.

FYI: Why the Opt-Out Insert

A History of Its Travels — So Far

THE TRAVELS OF OUR BOOKLET

My first introduction of the booklet was at a meeting about a month ago. I passed out 120 and a man came up to me and said he “walked precincts and would copy and pass out hundreds” in the coming months.

Marjorie Boehm and Ellen Schwartz are distributing copies at their weekly literature table at Farmers’ Markets in Sacramento. Both are members of GFP and WILPF.

Sacramento GFP Loretta Schmitz has given out 200 on her own, at a July 4th parade, and to jr. high and high-school students. Veterans for Peace and Peace Action in New York City have printed up hundreds and will distribute to schools and meetings.

In addition, on July 12th, Peg, Anne Galloway and Laura Braly of People for Peace and Justice requested the St Johns County School board meeting make the Opt-Out form available to the students and their families. No action was taken at this time.

In Minnesota, GFP Constance Fleisher tells me her chapter spent the evening of July 15th at bookstores handing out the Opt-Out Form to parents/guardians accompanying children, and young adults waiting for the Harry Potter one-minute after midnight book release. Sonia St. Charles, of Shoreview, Minnesota, has hosted a number of high teas for mothers of teenage sons and daughters to inform them about the Opt-Out forms—plus, her own 15-year-old son is giving out brochures.

In the Bay Area our GFP Ginny DeMartini and Corine Thornton are handing out brochures at meetings and events they attend. They are being distributed at the annual Livermore Labs demonstration where hundreds gather each year on August 6th.

In Houston, Texas, GFP Susan Wright and her “team,” Beth, Jodi, Misty, and Colin, Susan’s 27 year-old son, will distribute the opt-out fliers during the Texas Tax Free week-

Grandmothers Against the War vigil each week across from Rockefeller Center and pass them out.

Our GFP, Faith Woolson, in Fredonia, NY, said their Center for Peace and Justice offered $25 to print 250 copies to give out at a large festival in August. The local Friends' Meeting saw the pamphlet and wanted 250 to give away at their Sunday Meeting for Worship at Chautauqua Institution. Perhaps 10 to 20 people attend the Quaker Meeting, but we reach an entirely different crowd during the Chautauqua Institution’s nine-week summer program—it has an attendance of 10,000 people. “We are trying to find the cheapest printing rates, but even if it costs a bit more, can you think of a better way to spend a few dollars? Think what just one of these booklets might do for someone: save a life!”

Dorothy Wolden of Northland GFP (Wis.) is working to distribute copies of the Opt-Out pamphlet at local high school orientations this fall. It is a very valuable tool for counter-recruiting and will be very helpful to parents and students. “We must stop this exploitation and coercion of our children, their names and personal information handed over to military recruiters by the ‘No Child Left Behind’ Act which is sometimes rightly referred to as the ‘No Child Left Unrecruited’ Act.”

In Florida, GFP Peg McIntire made 100 copies. “I will include it in my next GFP newsletter also.” In addition, on July 12th, Peg, Anne Galloway and Laura Braly of People for Peace and Justice requested the St Johns County School board meeting make the Opt-Out form available to the students and their families. No action was taken at this time.

In Minnesota, GFP Constance Fleisher tells me her chapter spent the evening of July 15th at bookstores handing out the Opt-Out Form to parents/guardians accompanying children, and young adults waiting for the Harry Potter one-minute after midnight book release.
end, prior to the start of school. They plan to distribute 2,000 in malls and stores where people shop. Susan says “That’s our goal. In fact, two of us are even using vacation days to do this project because we are so committed to getting the word out to other parents. I’m sure there are so many out there that do not even realize that the military has access to their children’s records! I’m also glad that I found GFP, it has given me courage to stand up for my convictions when I live in an area where being against Bush isn’t always popular.”

In Washington state, GFP Ellen Murphy has made copies to hand out at a Peace Action meeting near Seattle. She also will give them to the local Peace & Justice Center counter-recruiting group, and “continue to take them with me wherever I can.” Ellen was arrested and went to trial a few years ago for handing out information at a recruiting station about Depleted Uranium.

And, because of the efforts of Corine Thornton in Hayward, CA, the opt out form is on the website of Representative Pete Stark! Corine gave it to Rep. Stark at a Town Hall Meeting and he promised to post it, which he did. (Ed: At his website, type “opt out” into the search area.)

**Recruiters Avoid Veterans for Peace**

In June, a small group of local activists went in solidarity support to the MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Stations) here in Sacramento, CA. It is where the young recruits are tested and processed into the military after the promises of their recruiters. The military chose to take a five-minute action and blow it into a full blown media event!

George Main, President of Veterans for Peace Sacramento Chapter had a “Petition for Redress of Grievance” that he wanted to leave with the officer in charge at the facility. Essentially the petition asked the Department of Defense to recognize and honor a 72-hour cooling off period for persons under the age of 21 who sign the Enlistment/Reenlistment Document Armed Forces of the US. It would give our young people the same “right” as buying a product and changing your mind after thinking about what you have done.

The doors were locked and no one was answering the knocks or the bell, although many were gathered inside. After about 40 minutes, the police came out and said George could slip his list between the slats of the locked door! No one would come out or let him in to exercise a First Amendment right. We pay the salaries of the people behind that locked door! As we left, the paper remained on the floor.

Veterans for Peace and others gather at 4:30 a.m., four days a week as the young potential recruits are bused in to MEPS for their final paperwork and exams. They attempt to tell them there are alternatives to the military, and in some cases have had success.

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**Consent Denied: Women Reject War**

**Women’s Pledge to Protect and Resist**

I, ____________________________________________ am not raising/did not raise my son, daughter, or the other children in my life to wage war on or to harm the sons and daughters of women anywhere. Nor will I myself ever agree to fight in war.

I will support and assist my spouse/partner, children, grandchildren, or other family and friends in registering as Conscientious Objectors and/or refusing to serve in the US military.

Signature ____________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________

Date ____________________________________________

Additional statement:

A conscientious objector is one who gains legal status for opposition to serving in the armed forces and/or bearing arms, on the grounds of moral or religious principles.

This pledge is sponsored and supported by

**Consent Denied: Women Reject War**

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**Wisconsin:** Milwaukee Area Contact Person
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Boots On The Move

Sept. 9-11: Baltimore, MD
Sept. 23-25: Lancaster, PA
Sept 29-Oct. 1: The College of St. Catherine, Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN
Oct. 6-9: Ithaca, NY
Oct. 10-18: Newark, NJ

For future dates and more information please go to the EWO Exhibit:

The American Friends Service Committee exhibit, “Eyes Wide Open,” speaks directly to our hearts — reminding us of the human cost of war and honoring the sacrifice of all who have died in the Iraq war. The exhibit has visited over 40 cities with extensive local, national and international media coverage.

Ed: See page 1 for the entire article.

Grandmothers for Peace International

Barbara Wiedner and Dorothy Vandercook Memorial Scholarship Foundation

2005 Scholarship Foundation Winners

Jason D. Crowe: Newburgh, Indiana - $500
Niko Milonopoulos: Studio City, California - $500
Louis De Sitter: Hood River, Oregon - $250
Given Kachepa: Colleyville, Texas, (citizen of Zambia, Africa) - $250
Sydney McGrane: Reading, Massachusetts - $250
Brett Schilke: Neenah, Wisconsin - $250
Amanda Gelender: Castro Valley, California - $250
Amelia Pelly: Asheville, North Carolina - $250
Max McDaniel: Grass Valley, California - $250
Bethany Woolman: Albany, California - $250
Anne Johnson: Minoaqua, Wisconsin - $250
Hillary Livingston: Enon, Ohio - $250

for information, and/or donation,
Leal Portis, 16335 Patricia Way ● Grass Valley, CA 95949 ● USA,
phone/fax (530) 273-6018; ● e-mail: hopione@sbcglobal.net

GFPI Membership Renewal/Application

☐ Renew  ☐ Keep me on the mailing list
☐ New    ☐ Remove me from the mailing list

☐ Email: Put me on the GFP email alert list.

Please make membership check payable to Grandmothers for Peace Int’l.

☐ $25 Regular/yearly  ☐ $25 Mens Auxiliary/yearly
☐ $15 Senior Citizen/yearly  ☐ $50 Patron/yearly
☐ $30 Family/yearly  ☐ $100 Sponsor/yearly

$____ Donation to Peace Education. If your donation is $25.00 or more, it is tax-deductible, and please make your check payable to the AGAPE Foundation.

Mail to:
Grandmothers for Peace International
P.O. Box 580788
Elk Grove, CA 95758 USA
Washington, D.C.
September 10-12
Department of Peace Conference

PLACES TO GO & THINGS TO KNOW IN 2005

A Dept. of Peace would establish nonviolence as an organizing principle of American society, providing the U.S. with an array of peace-building policy options for domestic and international use.

A few of the guest speakers are Walter Cronkite, Dennis Kucinich, Marianne Williamson, and Azim Khamisa.

Contact: www.ThePeaceAlliance.org;
Phone: (586) 754-8195.

Washington, DC; San Francisco, Calif.; Los Angeles, Calif.
September 24, 2005

The A.N.S.W.E.R. Coalition urges the antiwar movement to come together for a united demonstration demanding the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the U.S. from Iraq. The military spending level for the next year will be over $600 billion. The lives of our sons and daughters, and our tax dollars are being spent to wage a global war for domination that will benefit U.S. banks, oil monopolies, and transnational corporations. Many Americans are seeing their jobs, wages, health care coverage, and pensions cut. Instead of paying for endless war, demand that resources be used to meet human needs here and abroad.

Contact: www.answercoalition.org;
e-Mail: info@internationalanswer.org

Vancouver, BC
June 23-28, 2006

The World Peace Forum

The city of Vancouver, a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone, unanimously passed a motion to support, to help fund, and to actively participate in the World Peace Forum. The theme of the Forum is “Cities and Communities: Working together to End War and Build a Peaceful, Just and Sustainable World.”

Contact: World Peace Forum, 10-111 Victoria Drive, Vancouver BC, Canada V5L 4C4; www.worldpeaceforum.ca;
Phone: (604) 687-3223;
eMail: admin@worldpeaceforum.ca

NO GFP POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS PERMITTED

Grandmothers for Peace, as an organization or chapter, can not endorse any political candidate or group due to our non-profit status.

Fort Benning, Georgia
November 18-20
Close the SOA!

Plan now to gather with student, religious, labor, veterans, human rights, and social and global justice groups at the gates of Ft. Benning to demand justice for the martyrs and for the thousands that continue to suffer the brutal consequences of the combat training taught at the SOA/WHISC.

Graduates of the School of the Americas/Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation are linked to almost every major human rights violation in Latin America since the school’s inception over 50 years ago. Your TAX $$$$ support this. Notify your Congressperson to support Bill HR 1217 to close the SOA.

Contact: SOA Watch: PO Box 4566, Washington, DC, 20017; Phone: (202) 234 3440; e-Mail: info@soaw.org; www.soaw.org to order your November 2005 Organizing Packet.

The Shanti Foundation for Peace is a non-profit organization, est.1993, that fosters the practice of non-violence in everyday life. Through arts and education, they create and implement programs that help children develop lifelong non-violent decision making skills.

A variety of Peacemaker gift cards, and a handbook for educators are available.

Contact: Shanti Foundation for Peace, 917 Fowler Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, 60202; Phone: (847) 492-0955; www.shantifoundationforpeace.com

Video
Arlington West

Arlington West, produced by Peter Dudar and Sally Marr, is a 56-minute tribute not only to fallen U.S. soldiers, but also to countless innocent Iraqi citizens.

A variety of opinions are presented: active duty military, military families, veterans, children, and the general public. See pg. 1 article for more information.

Contact: Phone: (323) 650-8166;
www.arlingtonwestfilm.org

STOP THE NEXT WAR NOW!
Effective Responses to Violence & Terrorism, by peace activists Medea Benjamin and Jodie Evans, educates and reflects on the effectiveness of peace-movement activities.

Over 70 experts, scholars, artists, activists, and journalists offer hope—through shared ideas, action steps, and practical checklists—to transition from a culture of violence to a culture of peace.

Contact: Your local bookstore; order online at www.codepink4peace.org

“These stories of Kathy Kelly’s life and work, touch our soul and renew our hope and belief in humanity. They inspire and challenge us to work for justice,” states Mairead Corrigan Maguire, Nobel Peace Laureate, 1976.

Other Lands Have Dreams: From Baghdad to Pekin Prison, by Kathy Kelly, founder of Voices in the Wilderness, is a collection of her journals, letters, and reports from Iraq, Haiti, and two US prisons.

It covers her time in Iraq from the first Gulf War through 12 years of harsh sanctions to the 2003 US Invasion and continued Occupation.

Kelly spent four months at Pekin Federal Prison Camp (Illinois) for protesting the US Army’s military combat training facility, the School of the Americas in Ft. Benning, Georgia. These graduates are linked to massacre, torture, assassination, and the disappearance of thousands of people in Latin America since the school’s inception over 50 years ago.

This three-time Nobel Peace Prize Nominee has been arrested over 40 times in the U.S. and has been arrested or detained numerous times in other countries.

Her love of others and her commitment to nonviolence enables her to tell the truth ... “through the eyes of Iraqi mothers, children, students, doctors and musicians, whose lives have been overturned by more than a decade of war and deprivation, inflicted in the name of humanitarianism.”

Contact: Your local bookstore; order online at www.vitw.org

“There are not enough jails, not enough policemen, not enough courts, to enforce a law not supported by the people.”
— Hubert H. Humphrey, 1965

page 10
Grandmothers for Peace International
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Shipping & Handling: ADD $4.00 1st item = $  
$2.00 each additional item x _______ = $ 

Make check payable to Grandmothers for Peace International* for the TOTAL: $ 

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

*Return this Order Form to: Grandmothers For Peace
Sarah Johnson
9612 Kent Street
Elk Grove, CA 95624 • USA
Phone: (916) 686-5858
e-mail: sjohnson@surewest.net

Take Our Message Wherever You Go!

Hats on to GFP
For peaceful protesting — an adjustable Baseball Cap with the GFP Logo — $11.00 each.

& Bumper Stickers
$2.00 each, postage included.
Volume discounts available.
**The Starfish Flinger**

Thousands of starfish washed ashore. A little girl began throwing them in the water so they wouldn’t die. “Don’t bother, dear,” her mother said, “it won’t make a difference.”

The girl stopped for a moment and looked at the starfish in her hand. “It will make a difference to this one.”

**I Will Not Raise My Child To Kill Your Child**

I will not raise my child to shoot your child
I will not raise my child to shoot guns
I will not raise my child to kill your child
In a war with your daughters and your sons.

I’m told that freedom is something to die for
Of all nations we are the most free
But where is the freedom if the children go to war
If we’re all afraid to walk down the street
We were raised to accept all this bloodshed
It’s the last one surviving that wins
We’ve allowed it too long, we must make it all stop
It’s the child who will suffer for the sins.

— Barbara Choo

**Numbers You Need**

It is important that President Bush, key people in his Administration, and members of Congress hear from you.

**President George W. Bush**
Phone: (202) 456-1111 [comment line]
Fax: (202) 456-2461
e-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

**First Lady Laura Bush**
e-mail: first.lady@whitehouse.gov

**Vice-President Dick Cheney**
e-mail: vice.president@whitehouse.gov

**Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice**
Fax: (202) 261-8577
e-mail: secretary@state.gov

**Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld**
Phone: (703) 697-5737 [Dept. of Defense]

**Members Of Congress**
(Capitol Switchboard)
Senate & House: (202) 224-3121
OPT-OUT FORM PROHIBITING SCHOOL OFFICIALS FROM 
RELEASING YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE 
NUMBER TO MILITARY RECRUITERS

School ______________________________________________ 
Date ____________________ 
Student Name_________________________________________ Date of Birth ____________________

Dear _______________________________________________
( Name of School)

I understand that the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 allows a student or a student's parent the right to prohibit a school from providing the military with a student's personal information.

_____ I request that this student's name, address, and telephone number not be released to Armed Forces, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools.

Signature of parent or guardian __________________________ 
– or –

_____ I am 18 years old and request my own name, address, telephone number and school records not be released to the Armed Forces, Military Recruiters, or Military Schools.

Signature of student ______________________________ 

Federal public law 107–110, section 9528 of the ESEA, “No Child Left Behind Act” requires school districts to release student names, addresses, and phone numbers to military recruiters upon their request. The military uses this information to recruit students. The law also requires the school district to notify you of your right to Opt-Out from this by requesting that the district not release your information to military recruiters. The completion and return of this form serves as your request to withhold your private information.

WHAT FAMILIES NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MILITARY RECRUITING IN HIGH SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

- Recruiter Access to Schools and Students
- Recruiter Promises
- Making Enlistment Decisions
- Ten Points to Consider Before Signing a Military Enlistment Agreement
- OPT-OUT FORM

Pamphlet prepared by: 
Grandmothers for Peace International 
PO Box 580788 
Elk Grove, CA 95758 
http://www.grandmothersforpeace.org 
E-mail: lorraine@grandmothersforpeace.org 

Permission to Copy/Reprint - Please Spread the Word.
TEN POINTS TO CONSIDER BEFORE SIGNING A MILITARY ENLISTMENT AGREEMENT

1. Do not make a quick decision by enlisting the first time you see a recruiter or when you are upset.
2. Take a witness with you when you speak with a recruiter.
3. Talk to veterans.
4. Consider your moral feelings about going to war.
5. Get a copy of the enlistment agreement.
6. There is no "period of adjustment" during which you may request and receive an immediate honorable discharge.
7. Get all your recruiter's promises in writing.
8. There are no job guarantees in the military.
9. Military personnel may not exercise all the civil liberties enjoyed by civilians.
10. Many other opportunities exist for you to serve your community and enhance your skills.

Courtesy of American Friends Service Committee, National Youth and Militarism Program

RECRUITER ACCESS TO SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

- Students have a choice on recruitment interviews. They do not have to submit to an interview. (See back page for opt-out form.)
- Ask your school about their procedures once the opt-out form is turned in.
- Schools receiving federal funds must, by law, allow military recruiters on campus. Schools have the right to set reasonable rules for recruiters to follow. Recruiters should take the school's rules and monitor the activity.
- Students have a choice on recruitment interviews. They do not have to submit to an interview.
- Students have a choice on recruitment interviews. They do not have to submit to an interview.

ENLISTMENT AGREEMENT BEFORE SIGNING A MILITARY

TEN POINTS TO CONSIDER

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RECRUITER PROMISES

- Parents should talk to recruiters themselves to make sure promises are clear and accurate. Report any promises that are not clear and accurate to the school's recruiter.
- Students and families should take as much time as they need to make a decision. All school and career options should be considered.军人的忠诚和责任应建立在充分理解和充分了解军方政策的基础上。学生和家庭应有足够的时间考虑军方的决定。所有学校和职业选择都应被考虑。
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