## An Actual Plan to Say NO to NUKES

The dangers of nuclear war have risen sharply this year. Unfortunately, very few members of the House and Senate have risen to the occasion by speaking out to de-escalate tensions between nuclear powers and seriously revive negotiations for nuclear-weapons treaties.

# We demand action from elected officials to decrease the risk of nuclear war.

#### **End the Policy of "First Use"**

Under current policy, the President of the United States has limitless authority to launch a nuclear strike. The notion that any one person, regardless of character or party affiliation, could have such vast power to end life on Earth is appalling in the best of times – let alone during a time of increasing nuclear rhetoric and vast foreign policy shifts.

#### Rejoin Nuclear-Weapons Treaties the U.S. Pulled Out Of

The United States withdrew from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty in 2002 and from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty in 2019. Both pacts significantly reduced the dangers of nuclear war.

### Take U.S. Nuclear Weapons Off Hair-Trigger Alert

The United States has roughly 1,700 deployed nuclear weapons and another several thousand in reserve. Four hundred of these are on missiles in underground silos, ready to be launched within minutes of a presidential order. This alert status – called hair-trigger alert – increases the chance of a launch in response to a false alarm.

### Get Rid of ICBMs (land-based nuclear missiles)

The U.S. is set to spend 264 billion dollars on the projected lifetime cost of the new Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent program. Meanwhile, a growing consensus among nuclear weapons experts asserts not only that the U.S. doesn't need these weapons for its security, but that keeping them keeps the U.S. needlessly vulnerable to a massive nuclear attack.

#### Support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)

There is a "clear support by the vast majority of the world's countries for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and a world free of nuclear weapons," said Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN.) "Countries that continue to possess and endorse nuclear weapons must heed their call."

Move the Money to Human Needs, Not War

Half of the U.S. government's discretionary budget goes to military spending – while vast numbers of people lack adequate health care, education, housing, and other basic needs, at the same time that the climate emergency and other environmental crises are worsening. Budgets are moral documents and should be devoted to sustaining life instead of destroying life.

Call the Capitol switchboard and demand your Representative and Senators support efforts to decrease the chance of nuclear war: (202) 224-3121.

Written by Promoting Enduring Peace: PEPeace.org; office@pepeace.org

Distributed by the New Haven Sunday Vigil for Peace and Justice

This vigil, ongoing since 1999, brings the message that our tax dollars should be spent on the things we need to sustain and improve our lives and our planet. Instead, our government's soon-to-be trillion dollar a year investment in the war industry and in war-making continues to steal massive amounts of money from these purposes. In our own backyard here in Connecticut, General Dynamics' Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton is receiving a vast infusion of contracts to produce the next generation of submarines to carry nuclear missiles capable of ending all life on Earth.

We believe that our tax dollars should not be spent to enrich the munitions makers, arms traffickers, and those whose extreme wealth these wars protect and increase. If you agree, please speak out!

Join us any Sunday, 12-1, here at Broadway, Park and Elm Streets.

RESIST THIS ENDLESS WAR

newhavensundayvigil.wordpress.com

06/25/2023

\*Russia Out of Ukraine \*No NATO Expansion \*De-fund war profiteers everywhere