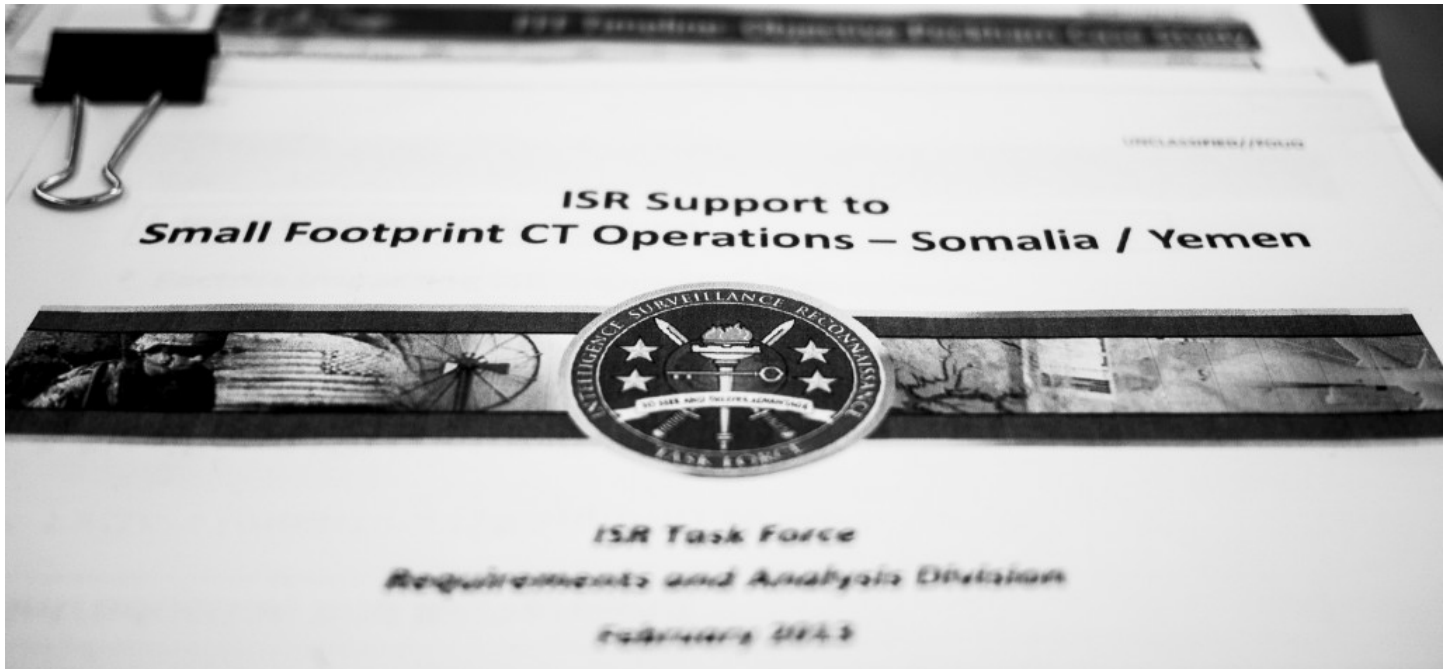


SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL'S
Peace Newsletter
Central New York Voices for Peace and Social Justice

Nov-Dec 2015 #847



Damning Leak of Drones Documents

Carol Baum

In an astonishing act of civil courage, one American just shattered an unspeakable lie....There's never been a major leak of documents relating to the US drone program. Until now.

– Tweeted by National Security Agency whistleblower Edward Snowden on the release of The Drone Papers (<https://theintercept.com/drone-papers>).

We're allowing this to happen. And by 'we,' I mean every American citizen who has access to this information now, but continues to do nothing about it.

– Stated by “the source,” who provided the documents to The Intercept.

On October 15, the news website *The Intercept*, which is “dedicated to producing fearless, adversarial journalism,” published *The Drone Papers*. This eight-part series

is based on leaked documents on the Pentagon’s assassination-by-drone program in Afghanistan, Somalia and Yemen from 2011-2013. While some of the information was previously known, the level of detail and new data make it clear that the US is regularly and knowingly violating human rights with its drone program. The value of *The Drone Papers* comes not just in publishing the documents themselves, but in decoding and analyzing technical military information. It’s clear that drone assassination has become integral to the US “war on terror,” which is now a US war of terror.

Two Pentagon studies and a computer screen shot were leaked:

Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Support to Small Footprint Counterterrorism Operations – Somalia/ Yemen (a “footprint” is the area which is

feasible for surveillance and targeting). The purpose of this study was to evaluate the intelligence and technology behind the drone campaigns in Yemen and Somalia—countries outside declared war zones—with an eye to planning future campaigns. It provided the first clear documentation of the steps in the chain of command to approve a drone strike and its timing (note: the CIA has a different process, unknown to the public). There was also a case study of a British-Lebanese citizen who was surveilled for at least five years (during which time he could have been easily arrested), then stripped of his British citizenship and eventually killed in a drone attack.

Operation Haymaker. This study evaluated a special operations campaign

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SPC INFO

SPC Steering Committee 2015

Carol Baum, Brian Escobar, Vani Kannan, Kimberley McCoy, Michael Messina-Yauchzy, Julianne Oldfield, Amelia Lefevre, Simone Richmond, Ursula Rozum, Diane Swords, Brian Tackett, Richard Vallejo, Aly Wane.

SPC's Peace Newsletter

Editorial Committee: Brian Escobar, Amelia Lefevre, Aly Wane. **Layout:** Amelia Lefevre. **Calendar:** Brian Escobar. **Proofing:** Rae Kramer, Andy Molloy. **Distribution Coordinator:** Susan Adair.

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Read the *PNL* online (issues dating back to 1936!). See all our projects and events.

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Sue Eiholzer (315) 492-2684 rsue@twcny.rr.com, Jack Ramsden (315) 424-1454

Nuclear Free World Committee: Diane Swords, (315) 391-4484

Fundraising and Finances: Ursula Rozum and Carol Baum

Peace Newsletter: Amelia Lefevre

Affiliated Projects & Coalitions

Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse: faith & secular groups

United as One: working for justice in the local justice system

New Yorkers Against Fracking: statewide coalition opposing hydrofracking

Move to Amend: works against corporate control of the democratic system

Upstate Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars

Urban Jobs Task Force: working to pass a local hiring ordinance

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What happened to the Community Calendar?

Don't fret! If you are a *Peace Newsletter* subscriber, your calendar is tucked in with the other fliers. If you pick up your *PNL* at one of our many free distribution sites, the calendar is probably posted on a bulletin board nearby. Also find it at www.peacecouncil.net/pnl.

Why? The Peace Council staff and the *PNL* editorial committee are experimenting with different ways of producing the newsletter that will better match our needs and capacity. Please let us know what you think about the changes we're trying!

Peace Newsletter

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Advertising: Call 472-5478 or visit our website for rates and sizes.

Calendar: Submit items for the January *PNL* calendar by December 20.

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Educate, Agitate, Organize: SPC IN ACTION

compiled by Carol Baum

Come Together at Plowshares

At this time of year when the night is lengthening, the Plowshares Craftsfair and Peace Festival lights up our hearts and spirits. Plowshares is Central New York's premier multicultural craftsfair, celebrating a world where people enjoy their work and have control over it. It is a marketplace both of ideas and beautiful handmade items, a community gathering of people who hope and work for a better world.

Spend the day! There is so much to do at Plowshares. It features 125 local craftspeople and community groups. You'll find clothing, jewelry, ceramics, decorative objects, herbal medicinals and more. When you need a break from shopping, enjoy the ongoing live entertainment, savor the tasty food from The Mission restaurant, or just hang out with old and new friends.

There's also the fun of exploring the SPC Marketplace (featuring a wide array of peace and social justice books, calendars, t-shirts, stickers, buttons and more), buying raffle tickets and bidding on SPC silent auction items.

Plowshares is SPC's biggest fundraiser of the year. Volunteers and the staff collective have been bustling to get ready and the weekend itself needs many more volunteers (hint, hint). You can help even now by getting the word out—post flyers (*PNL* subscribers have one enclosed), tell your friends (bring a newbie or two), post on social media or put a lawn sign in your yard. Contact Carol if you can help in any way.

So mark your calendars: SPC's 45th annual Plowshares Craftsfair and Peace Festival is at Nottingham High School (3100 E. Genesee St., Syracuse) from **10 am-5 pm on Saturday, December 5** and **11 am-5 pm on Sunday, December 6**. We're looking forward to seeing you there!



The 165-mile Undrone Upstate walk (see page 4) ended at Niagara Air Base on October 20. Photo: Carol Baum

Rev Up for the REV

Governor Cuomo and the New York Public Service Commission have undertaken a major overhaul of New York's energy policy called Reforming the Energy Vision (REV). The Public Service Commission is holding hearings about these issues.

REV could lead to dramatic increases in renewables and energy efficiency. But this is not a guaranteed outcome—we need to participate. Please come to the Syracuse hearing on **Wednesday, November 18** at Clary Middle School Auditorium (100 Amidon Drive); 6-7 pm information session and 7 pm public statement hearing. For talking points go to <http://tinyurl.com/ox3asq>.

Contact Jessica Azulay at Jessica@agreenewyork.org of Alliance for a Green Economy (SPC is a coalition member).

Thanksgiving Circle of Peace and Hope

Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation (NOON) will gather with friends from Onondaga and the broader community at **10 am on Thursday, November 26 at Willow Bay** (north shore of Onondaga Lake) to express thanks for the Onondaga Nation's important work to protect Mother Earth and offer inspiration for justice and healing between our peoples. Dress for the weather. We'll provide light refreshments. Contact Andy. mager@gmail.com, 315-559-7058.

Anti-Racism Study Groups

Poverty & Segregation Study Group: In recent years the *Post-Standard* has printed articles about two studies of interest—one showing that Syracuse is one of the top ten most racially segregated cities in the US and another showing Syracuse has one of the *highest* rates nationwide of poverty in communities of color. Activists are in the beginning stages of organizing a study

continued on next page

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Amelia Lefevre: amelia@peacecouncil.net

SPC in Action / from previous page

group to help inform and develop future organizing strategies to break down barriers of segregation and poverty in Syracuse. This group is projected to start meeting in January 2016.

The Anti-Racism & White Privilege Study Group has just completed its fall session. Over the course of six meetings, participants read articles, discussed and shared personal experiences about becoming aware of white privilege, white people's role in organizing to end racism, and handling common challenges that get in the way of us working effectively against racism. There will be a second session of this study group starting in spring 2016.

Contact Amelia.

Walking to Ground Drones

From October 7-21, activists from the Upstate Coalition to Ground the Drones and End the Wars walked the 165 miles from Syracuse's Hancock Air Base to Buffalo's Niagara Falls Air Base.

Carrying a banner stating "Imagine NO Drones: Undrone Upstate and Disrupt the Death Squadrons," the walkers were

seen by thousands of people and spoke with hundreds.

SPC was responsible for the Syracuse to Clyde portion of the walk. The kick-off event was a talk by Kathy Kelly, who had just returned from Afghanistan (video at <http://tinyurl.com/p9jqfgr>). The next morning, a group of about 20 started walking at Hancock Air Base, stopping at St. Joseph's Hospital to protest the October 3rd US bombing of a Doctors Without Borders hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan.

The walk concluded with a demonstration at Niagara Falls AFB followed by a talk by CODEPINK organizer Medea Benjamin.

To work against weaponized drones, contact Carol.

ACTS Successful in Prison Campaign

In response to a demand from the Criminal Justice Task Force of the Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (of which SPC is a part), County Executive Joanie Mahoney agreed to move all 16-17 year olds currently held in Jamesville Prison to the Justice Center in downtown Syracuse.

Onondaga County had a policy of

STREET HEAT

Get out in the streets every month speaking out against war and Reaper drones. Bring your own sign or use one of ours. Meets weekly in summer.

First Tuesdays 4:15-5 pm

December 1 & January 5

Hancock Airbase Entrance (*E. Molloy Rd., between Thompson & Townline Rds.*)

Questions? Contact Ed or Ann, 315-478-4571

placing 16 and 17 year olds into solitary confinement at Jamesville, sometimes with no human contact for 23 hours a day. At the Justice Center, the young people will not be routinely subjected to solitary confinement. To participate with ACTS as an SPC representative, contact Carol.

Donate to SPC

As the Peace Council approaches our 80th year, we ask your help to sustain grassroots, local peace activism and solidarity with

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Understanding the Current Violence in Palestine and Israel

Dana April Seidenberg

Heart-wrenching scenes of human suffering darken our spectacular autumn as daily headlines in the local press telescope in on Palestinian violence against Israelis, characterized as lone-wolf attacks. Of course Palestinians—often mere teenagers--- with their knives and stones are no match for the well-equipped Israeli army who respond with live fire and tear gas. These so-called ‘terrorists’ are doomed: they are either killed on the spot or taken prisoner.

Control over the site of the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Temple Mount is often cited as the irritant in this latest round of violence in a conflict with seemingly no end in sight. The Al-Aqsa Mosque—among Islam’s holiest sites—was built over the ruins of the sacred Jewish Temple destroyed by Roman forces in antiquity. But the mainstream media fail to see the big picture and provide the true context of the conflict.

Where History Went Wrong

Admirers of Israel and Zionism conveniently overlook the origins and evolution of that nation-state as well as the plight of the Palestinians who for centuries have lived on that land. Like other late-19th century colonial projects, Zionism began in Europe. With Jews facing increased anti-semitism in Europe and the coming of World War I, Jewish communities wanted out.

A trickle went first to Kenya, but on the advice of Zionist leaders, others migrated to Palestine. “A land without a people for a people without a land” was a familiar colonial mantra for advancing a possible project in Palestine. There was one problem. Hidden in plain sight was Historic Palestine, already inhabited by those who had lived there for generations and were not about to surrender it to colonizers.

By 1948 a war between the new settlers and the natives led to the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. The well-armed settlers

Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against the Israeli government until it ends its occupation and recognizes the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes.

Inspired by South Africans’ struggle against apartheid, Palestinians are asking the international community to promote boycotts of companies that are profiting from Israel’s brutal occupation of Palestine. Some targeted companies include firms like RE/Max, which sells real estate in West Bank settlements; G4S, which provides security services in Israeli prisons and checkpoints (and, incidentally, at our own Hancock airport); and defense contractor Lockheed Martin, which produces the F-16 jets that have been used by Israel in its assaults on the Gaza strip.

Lockheed Martin, which also develops drones and produces missiles for them, has a large plant in the Syracuse suburbs.

Another Vision for Peace

On October 27, at ArtRage Gallery in Syracuse, we had the good fortune to hear the generous thoughts of Palestinian physician and author Abdul Karim Al Makadma. His hope is for an inclusive democratic secular state in all of Historic Palestine embedded in the very same principles enjoyed by many here in the US. In 1948 he and his family fled out of Beit Daras, a village near Jerusalem surrounded by olive groves, to Gaza where the al-Shati refugee camp was home.

Abdul Karim supports one state as “we are one people.” With Israeli settlements throughout the West Bank since 1967, the old two-state solution is no longer feasible. He adds: “What an incredible nation we could build together, Jews and Muslims and Christians, Palestinians all, if we worked as one in cooperation and peace.” In Martin Luther King Jr.’s famous phrase: “The arc of freedom bends in the direction of justice.” The effort needed to bend the arc is in our hands.



4.7 Million Palestinians are classified by the U.N. as refugees

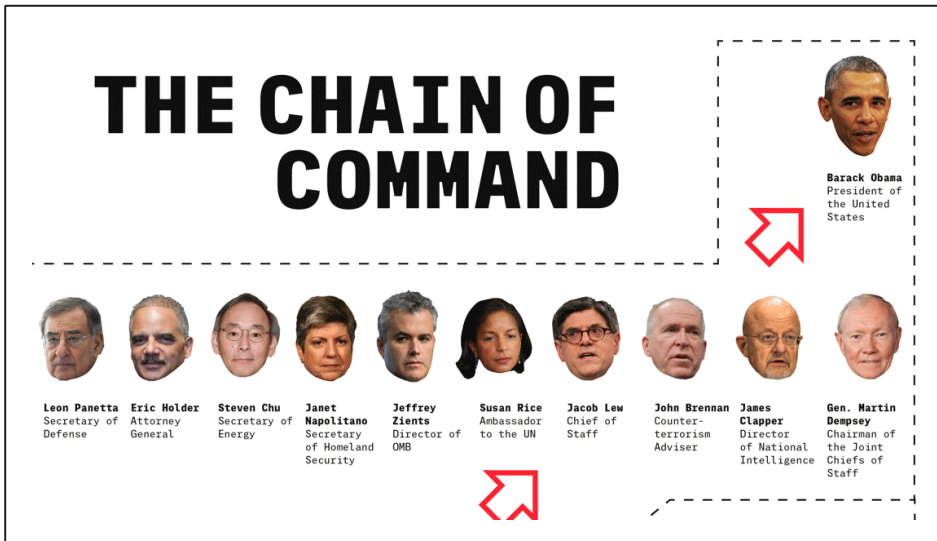
razed hundreds of Palestinian villages, forcing 700,000 people into exile where they remain to this day in refugee camps in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan or inside Palestine on the West Bank and Gaza. This settler movement occupying Palestine as a colonial state continues to thrive with the support of the United States and the European Union, with \$3 billion dollars of US taxpayer money flowing annually to the brutal Israeli military.

In Solidarity

It is axiomatic that oppression always brings forth resistance. By the 1930s, local uprisings against Britain’s colonial Mandate in Palestine had begun as did struggles against imperial powers in other occupied countries around the Mediterranean rim, Africa and elsewhere. In Palestine, the scenes we witness every day through our media are Arab inhabitants of the land fighting an ongoing colonial war for the liberation of their country.

In 2005, Palestinian civil society, represented by 171 unions, associations and organizations, asked people of conscience around the world who wish to support Palestinian freedom to become active in a

Dana is a Syracusan who is passionate about justice for Palestine.



The Drone Papers released a never-before-seen level of detail about whose okay is needed to go ahead with a drone strike. Source: *The Intercept*.

intended to destroy the Taliban and al Qaeda in northeastern Afghanistan. Although there were hopes the campaign would be a model for future US warfare, it was basically a failure. During a five-month period, nearly 90% of those killed in airstrikes were not the intended targets, and some of the targets were not members of the Taliban or al Qaeda. By the campaign's end, there were more than 200 EKIA's (anyone killed of a certain age and look is seen as an "enemy killed in action," masking the true number of civilians killed) and about 35 "jackpots" (deaths of specifically targeted people). Al Qaeda and the Taliban were undeterred.

The *geolocation watchlist* is a screen shot of lines of code on a computer terminal used by personnel involved in drone operations. These codes are associated with cell phone SIM cards, which are linked to specific individuals in order to locate them. The military relies heavily on signal intelligence (electronic communications) to identify targets, and much of it comes from foreign governments. Even though the documents state that this is an unreliable way to find and kill people, it is the primary way the US tracks targets in Yemen and Somalia.

In May 2013, President Obama stated that the only people who would be targeted by weaponized drones were those posing

a "continuing, imminent threat to the American people," and who could not be captured. He also said strikes would occur only if there was "near certainty" that no civilians would be killed or injured. The evidence has shown all parts of Obama's statement to be false.

Although the mainstream media is largely ignoring *The Drone Papers*, the word is getting out. Amnesty International has called for a congressional investigation into "why the Obama administration has kept this vital information secret, including the real identities of all those killed in this global killing programme." The American Civil Liberties Union has pressed ahead with their lawsuit to force the CIA to release data from their drone strikes, stating, "These revelations are further damning evidence that the Obama administration is continuing the Bush-era project of treating the world as a global battlefield while evading public accountability."

What can we do?

- Learn more. For a summary of The Drone Papers revelations, read part one, "The Assassination Complex" (<https://theintercept.com/drone-papers/the-assassination-complex>).
- Urge local media to report on the revelations.
- Support Amnesty International and the ACLU in their efforts.
- Contact the Peace Council to participate in our anti-drone organizing. ☘

Carol is an SPC staff organizer who has been working against drones since 2009.

You live on
in our hearts,
Jerry.

peaceful, patient nonviolent warrior
whose Catholic faith
runs deep

sharing arrests with Jerry:
an energizing, humble moment,

at Hancock, Griffiss, the Intrepid,
the federal building

Jerry: speaking truth to power
without blinking

his carefully chosen words
to explain Dorothy Day
(notes written out on index cards—
always the prepared teacher)

the steady hand of a painter

the greatest double take i ever saw:
Carol walking past Jerry,
crossing the line at Griffiss—
his look of shock and delight

a garlic grower
a smile extended
when you brought him
a few buckets
of
manure
for next year's crop

carefully hanging trowels
in his garden shed
and
brown rosary beads

a Jail Ministry visitor-advocate
a profound source of support
for Slocum House

to remember Jerry
voids the occasional hopeless
thoughts as we continue
to struggle against evil
with his faith and his Irish smile

—Paul Frazier, CNY activist

Memories of Jerry Berrigan (1919-2015)

Syracuse native and long time peace and social justice activist Jerry Berrigan passed away on July 26. Papers from the Post-Standard to the New York Times published obituaries. Here are a few local remembrances compiled by Brian Escobar.

Since 2010 Jerry, a frail nonagenarian, was among the most steadfast participants in our twice-monthly “street heat” demonstrations across the road from the main gate of Hancock Air Base—our local hunter/killer Reaper drone hub.

Despite severe mobility issues and except during wet or chilly weather when Carol—his devoted partner of 60-some years—and their very caring kids discouraged him from doing so, Jerry would join us trying to prick the conscience of drivers-by and Hancock personnel.

Quietly and serenely sitting in his lawn chair, Jerry would hold his anti-drone/anti-war sign facing the 4:30 pm base traffic going off shift. Like each of us, Jerry was there to change hearts and minds.

—Ann Tiffany and Ed Kinane

Jerry's Eulogy

I cannot wrap my head around a world without Jerry Berrigan. It doesn't make sense. There is no envisioning such a scenario.

Yet here it is, and here he is in the faces and in the hearts of everyone who loved him. Dad has the most beautiful circle of friends, and indeed that circle is massive. To meet him, to experience those blue eyes seemingly looking into your soul, to spend a few personal moments, is enough to leave you wanting more. He had a way of making people want to be more. More aware, more generous, more global. When I sat and thought about what I wanted to say today, I realized that there are so many parts to him that I would try to just focus on a few.

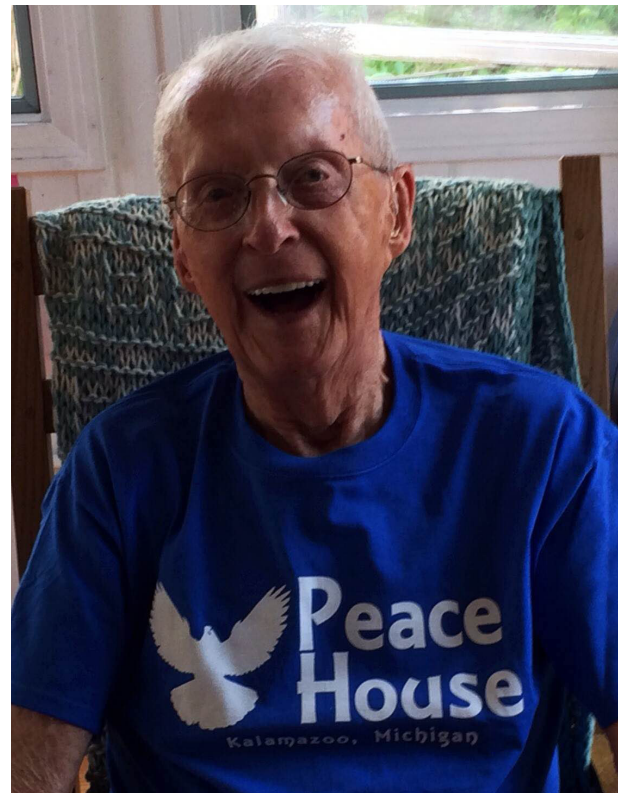
Jerry the giver. There was no limit to his generosity, yet he always felt he could be giving more. I recall the countless visits in the county nursing home as a small child when we would visit the forgotten, the broken, the lonely. I accompanied him delivering meals that my mother lovingly cooked for the elderly shut-ins who so desperately wanted to stay in their homes. I helped him bag up vegetables from his beloved organic garden that he proudly

handed out to the neighbors. His monthly check writing left even his tax man baffled. How could people give so much away? His dedication to Unity Acres from inception was unwavering as was his support to countless Catholic Worker houses across the country.

Jerry the teacher. My father's long teaching career in Syracuse began at Valley High School where (as the story goes) he went suited up tie and all to teach English. He refers to that time as his strict, straight days. From there he went on to newly built Corcoran High School for a few years, then again to the brand new OCC downtown and subsequently Onondaga Hill where he taught for over 40 years. Dad was popular with many of the students who would pick him up as he hitchhiked home because he insisted we were a “one car family.” While teaching, he often invited them to join him in actions around Syracuse to protest the war machine. One semester was particularly eventful as the US Marshalls appeared at his door at the college to escort him to Fonda Jail where he would join Bill Cuddy for a month long stint for refusing to leave Griffiss Air Force during a peaceful protest marking the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima.

Jerry the resister. How to capture “Jerry the Resister”? I think it makes most sense to tie it in with Jerry the man of faith because indeed you cannot separate the two. His faith wouldn't allow him NOT to work for peace and justice. He knew he had to put himself “on the line” because to not do so was not an option. He believed with his whole heart and soul that he WAS his brothers' and sisters' keeper and demonstrated that time and time again with his witnesses and arrests at the Pentagon, the School of the Americas, Griffiss Air force Base, the Federal Building in downtown Syracuse, and the courthouses to support his brothers Dan and Phil along with the wider peace community.

Jerry the husband, father, brother,



Jerry Berrigan, age 95. Photo courtesy of the Berrigan family

and friend. My father loved my mother fiercely! As he described to Sean Kirst she was Heart! Heart! Heart! The love and respect they showed each other for our entire lives was always present. In later years they didn't pass each other without a kiss, an embrace, a wink. Every day for the last year or so, my mother would ask what song he would like her to play on the piano and sing to him. Inevitably he would choose “Because,” a love song—their song. They would sing it together with such joy, even when my father's voice became no more than a whisper.

As a friend, he held dear such a wide circle of people whose ages span generations. Many of you here have witnessed with him, worked for peace and justice, and worshipped with him for those decades and have been a constant presence in his life.

So here we are, and here he is, as much a part of Saint Lucy's as the bricks in the wall. Dad never feared this day. He lived his life knowing that it was temporary and that the real reward came with eternal life. He was indeed a living testament to faith, love, and charity. Yes?

—Carla Berrigan, daughter.
The eulogy has been abridged. ♡

SPC in Action / from page 4

peace-loving people around the world by donating to the Peace Council this fall.

Daily news reports of hospital bombings, police brutality, and a never-ending refugee crisis are disheartening. Despite terrifying circumstances, activists around the world are resisting and organizing for peace, justice, and a dignified life. If you read the *Peace Newsletter* or attend SPC educational events, you've heard the voices of these activists.

When you donate to the Peace Council, you are supporting persistent and principled activism and organizing carried out by a community of grassroots activists. You can give online at www.peacecouncil.net/donate or via check or credit card. Donations of \$50 or more are tax deductible when made out to the "Syracuse Center for Peace and Social Justice" with SPC in the memo line.

Contact Ursula.

Farewell, not Goodbye, to Brian

The SPC staff collective is bidding farewell to our *de facto* fourth member, Brian Escobar, who has been working as an intern since last winter. Brian quickly and easily slipped into many roles at SPC over his months of involvement. Initially he focused on anti-corporate organizing and education. Approaching summer, Brian joined the *PNL* editorial committee and organized weekly tabling at the Downtown Farmer's Market. He has been an active participant in SPC's Anti-Racism & White Privilege Study Group as well as internal meetings about becoming an anti-racist organization. As fall approached, Brian took on more duties related to fundraising, data management, and the Nuclear Free World.

The staff cannot emphasize enough our gratitude for Brian's excellent work and how sad we are to see him leave his internship position. However, we are grateful for his continuing commitments to the Steering Committee, *PNL* editorial committee, and to helping SPC get a new database.

We are lucky to have Brian in our community. To every task he brings thoughtfulness and thoroughness; to every discussion,

critical thinking backed up by a vast body of knowledge; and to every conversation a kind laugh at the right moment. We're looking forward to many more years of rolling up our sleeves together, Brian!



Sue Nuccio poses with Frank Cetera at the "Pardon Pvt. Manning Photo Booth" at SPC's 2013 Birthday Dinner. Photo: Sarah Eggers

Activist Appreciation: Sue Nuccio

A professional roofer by trade, Sue Nuccio has been involved with the Peace Council for a few decades. She is one of the many behind-the-scenes activists who help SPC events succeed. Every Plowshares, Sue is part of setting up the raffle table and the Sunday evening cleanup team. At the Birthday Dinner, she won't hesitate to pick up a mop after most guests have left and insists on leaving the kitchen cleaner than before we started. Recently, Sue spent hours volunteering with Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation at the World Indoors Lacrosse Championship. Sue is super sweet and friendly, the kind of activist who helps foster a sense of camaraderie in every effort she is a part of. Thank you Sue for being a consistent and uplifting presence in our community!

Justice for Palestine

The Justice for Palestine Committee, formerly known as CNY Working for a Just Peace in Palestine and Israel, organizes frequent educational events about the human costs of Israel's occupation of Palestine. In late October we hosted Palestinian author Abdul Karim Al Makadma, author of *Tears of Olive Trees* (www.thetearsofolivetrees.com). In early November we screened *Ghost*

Town: A Hebron Story, a documentary about the rise of Israeli settlements in the West Bank city of Hebron and the major role the settlements play in destroying the peace process in the Mideast. Palestinian activist Basma Bahram of the Holy Land Fair Trade Cooperative (www.hlhc.org) also spoke.

The next meeting of the Justice for Palestine committee is **Monday, November 16 at 6 pm**. We will discuss developing local BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) campaigns focused on international companies with operations in Central New York which profit from Israel's occupation of Palestine. For more information contact Ann, 315-478-4571.

Nuclear Free World

The Nuclear Free World Committee held a screening of the winners and finalists of the Physicians for Social Responsibility's *Nuke Busters Short Film Competition*. The short films offer powerful reframings of the threat posed by nuclear weapons and their high costs today. Interspersed between the five shorts were activities designed by local artist Sally Safadi, which prompted participants to imagine alternatives. The success of the event convinced the committee that taking it on the road would be a fun and powerful form of outreach.

Birthday Dinner Success!

Thank you to everyone who helped make SPC's 79th Birthday Dinner a smashing success. Local poet/artist Mic tha Poet opened with two moving poems. Our featured guest Remi Kanazi received a standing ovation at the end of his performance, clips of which can be found online at www.peacecouncil.net/remi.

Attendees enjoyed delicious seasonal cuisine prepared by Shana Williams and featuring produce from Grindstone Farm, Freedom Rains Farm and Owens Orchard. Thank you to our kitchen volunteers, table hosts, door staffers, set-up and clean-up crews, videographers and more. You are all our heroes.

To join the organizing committee for SPC's 80th Birthday, contact Ursula. ♡