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No 92

June, 2024

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- * Independence -Breaking the US stranglehold on Australia- AAAC National Webinar- 4th July, 7pm
- * Building Peace in our Region AAAC National Webinar- Sunday, August 4th, 6pm
- * A peaceful future and AUKUS don't mix NSW Teachers Federation Auditorium, Tuesday, 6th August, 6-8pm organised by Mobilise against AUKUS and war
- * World Beyond War Resisting the USA's Military Empire- Conference- September 20-22, 2024

IPAN Activities



IPAN Media Release 4th May,2024:

Australian Government fails to tell the public the truth on May 4 Navy spying

- Claims by the Australian Government that the Navy was enforcing sanctions against North Korea have been heavily refuted
- Australian Navy spying on Chinese Coastal defence and military exercises occurred at the behest of the USA's Seventh Fleet
- IPAN calls for the cancellation of hostile spying activities in the South China Sea

Official claims by the Australian government that the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) was in the Yellow Sea as part of "the international effort to enforce United Nations Security Council sanctions against North Korea'[i] have been heavily refuted by experienced experts, according to the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN).

Instead, it is argued that the RAN was spying on Chinese Coastal defence and military exercises at the behest of the USA Seventh Fleet, when the Chinese reacted and warned off the Australian Navy helicopter by dropping a flare, with use of flares recognised by the Federal Aviation Authority as a safe and professional method of communication.

READ ON



Podcast: Government Lies about Helicopter incident

LISTEN HERE

URGENT Protest

Stop Bill, which would allow US and UK nuclear sub waste being dumped on Australia, being passed by parliament.





Charting our Own Course: Moving towards an Independent Nuclear Free and Peaceful Future

The conference will host a range of expert Australian and international speakers. Themes for the conference presentations and discussion:

- AUKUS alternatives to \$368 billion, dangers of nuclear waste, implications for Australian security, etc
- Campaign around Palestine and connections with broader peace movement
- · Regional peace initiatives in Asia Pacific
- Environmental consequences of arms buildup
- · Threats of nuclear war
- · More independent and genuine defence policy for Australia
- · How do we build a broader and active movement for independence and peace

To register your interest in attending and/or assisting with preparations

Please go to www.ipan.org.au or email ipan.australia@gmail.com

IPAN Members' Meeting

Tuesday the **11th June at 7:00pm AEST** (5.00 pm (WA); 6.30 pm SA/NT; 7.00 pm (Qld/NSW/ACT/Vic/Tas).

Join the meeting **HERE**

Zoom Meeting ID: 818 1319 8290 Passcode: 605364

All IPAN supporters welcome.

The talk for the evening is titled:

"Neutrality would keep us out of a US-China War" and will be presented by Bevan Ramsden.



Bevan attended an international conference on Neutrality in Colombia during April where he presented a paper.

Papers and discussions were presented by 50 speakers, with attendees representing 25 countries. A truly global outlook of ideas for neutrality as a means of forging peace.

AUKUS Concern

Send IPAN's OPEN Letter to your MP/Senator HERE

New Instagram account for IPAN

Recently an Instagram account was set up for IPAN

This provides another opportunity for IPAN's message to reach a different audience – with Instagram being widely used by young people in particular, a demographic that we need to connect with in a greater way

If you have an Instagram account, please 'follow' IPAN

If you don't have one - please consider creating one. It is another

way we can build connections and further the peace movement.

If you have any questions about how to set up or use Instagram – please contact Jonathan Pilbrow, IPAN via ipan.alicesprings@gmail.com
https://www.instagram.com/stories/ipanaustralia/

Australia-wide Activities

Palestine-Gaza

Pro-Palestinian rallies and marches for 32 consecutive weeks



2nd June: **Tens of thousands for the 32nd consecutive week** continue to rally in Hyde Park and march through the Sydney CBD in support of Palestinians and opposing Israeli genocide in Gaza. **No** anti-semitic chants, placards or speeches- peaceful and

humanitarian.

But still the TV and newspapers fail to acknowledge the rally and march and give it publicity. Similar continuing actions in other capital cities.

With acknowledgement to Sydney Criminal Lawyers, 05/0602024

Thousands of Australian Public Servants speak out against Israeli atrocities

by Paul Gregoire

"The crisis in Gaza calls for a fundamental rethink about where Australia stands," says Dr Alison Broinowski.

One of the big news stories last Thursday was <u>over 300 Australian</u> <u>public servants</u> had signed an open letter calling on the PM and his government to end their "support of the genocide, ethnic cleansing and illegal occupation of Palestine by immediately ceasing all military exports to Israel".

This is significant as the public is now well aware that criticising Israel's assault on Gaza can result in termination, especially, one would consider, from government. But eight months into a livestreamed genocide, circumstances are so dire that the <u>open letter</u> now lists over 2,000 public servants' names.

READ ON



The Gaza solidarity encampment at Australian National University last month. Beatrice Tucker, a member of the encampment, has been expelled over comments about Hamas. Photograph: Mick Tsikas/AAP

© Photograph: Mick Tsikas/AAP

STUDENTS & STAFF AGAINST WAR ANU MEDIA RELEASE 6
JUNE 2024

ANU EXPELS PRO-PALESTINE STUDENT, CONTINUES LINKS WITH ARMS MANUFACTURERS

The ANU has expelled Beatrice Tucker for comments made on ABC radio, banning the student from entering campus or continuing their studies. This comes a week after the ANU called police on the student encampment.

Students and Staff Against War ANU, a group on campus, has been circulating an open letter condemning any disciplinary action taken against Tucker, which has garnered over 500 signatures and over

50 staff signatures. Hundreds attended an NTEU rally on 16 May after the ANU sent 7 students letters requesting they leave the camp. And hundreds once again prevented police from arresting students in the camp on 27 May.

Sydney Anti-AUKUS Coalition (SAAC)
Leaflet for distributing at Pro-Palestinian Rallies & to spectators

PINE GAP TARGETS GAZA



Pine Gap near Alice Springs in Central Australia is a spy station and a military planning and targeting base. It controls satellites which can monitor the Gaza Strip and surrounding areas, gathering intelligence useful to Israel's military.

DOWNLOAD LEAFLET HERE



28th May, 2024

Health workers deplore latest attack on Rafah as United Nations agencies describe "hell on earth"

by Melissa Sweet (Medical Association for Prevention of War (Australia)

Senior United Nations officials have condemned Israeli air strikes that hit a camp for displaced people in Rafah, southern Gaza, killing and injuring scores of Palestinians including women and children.

The Medical Association for the Prevention of War (Australia) has today urged the Australian Government to act, saying "this latest, horrific bombardment of a camp of displaced people seeking safety cannot stand".

Statement by MAPW

Extract

"We stand in solidarity with our health worker colleagues in Gaza. We call on our own Government to respect and uphold the law, to defend the independence of the world's courts, and to condemn and withhold all support from parties that violate court orders, international laws, human rights, and moral standards. We despair when this appears so hard to do."

Complete Statement **HERE**

APAN May 10 to May 12 Conference

The annual 3-day conference of the influential Australia Palestine Advocacy Network (<u>Australia Palestine Advocacy Network</u> (<u>apan.org.au</u>) or APAN, supported by Just Peace QLD) was held in the Historic Victorian Trades Hall, Melbourne. It was attended by 250 people actively involved as organisers, speakers, workshop leaders and workshop participants.



A massive march through the streets of Melbourne began on Sunday, May 12th and ended at the carefully-guarded steps of

Victoria's Parliament House. This is a location of daily and nightly vigils for Palestine.

AUKUS & Nuclear Subs



ABC News 22/05/24

440 Australians training on US nuclear subs

They will automatically be drawn into war against China if hostilities break out between the US and China- Australia cannot have an independent foreign policy says Senator David Shoebridge

"This is a core threat to Australia's sovereignty, hundreds of Australian sailors and officers can be committed to the next US war without any credible way for our own government to stop it," Greens senator David Shoebridge warns.

"Does the Albanese government seriously say we can rapidly pull over 400 Australian personnel off US attack class nuclear subs before they are sent into a conflict? The very idea is fanciful. "This is another demonstration of how AUKUS undermines

Australia's ability to have an independent foreign policy and military.

Wednesday, May 29th 2024 Daily Mail

American diplomat Kurt Campbell suggests Australia's AUKUS nuclear submarines could be to defend Taiwan against China

A top US diplomat has suggested his country would expect Australia's planned nuclear-powered submarines to be used if it went to a war with **China** over **Taiwan**.

Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell spoke about the AUKUS submarines during an appearance last week at the Centre for a New American Security in Washington.

Dr Campbell said the US was facing 'a number of potential areas of conflict' in the Indo-Pacific which would require the cooperation of its AUKUS allies and other regional partners.

'I think all countries, each of these countries need to underscore that this is not a jobs program, it is not a technology development program,' he said in Washington.

'Those are corollary advantages.

'This is a security partnership that is profoundly constitutional and has the potential to not only create fundamentally new realities... in

the water in Asia, but also change the nature of the way each of our three countries operate together.'

Dr Campbell reportedly told European Union officials two years ago that AUKUS was about 'getting Australia off the fence - we have them locked in now for the next 40 years'.

In June last year, Dr Campbell told the Center for Strategic International Studies how Australia would be expected to deploy US-built submarines during a discussion on the strategic implications of AUKUS.

The Health of Emergency response workers and the Port Adelaide community is at Risk in a potential AUKUS Nuclear Submarine Reactor Accident.

Briefing by David Noonan, Independent Environment Campaigner, 27 April 2024.

Federal Labor AUKUS legislation to declare Osborne a "Designated Nuclear Zone" for the maintenance of US Virginia Class Nuclear-Powered Attack Subs (N-Sub), and for the later proposed build of a future UK N-Sub design, is expected to go to a Parliamentary vote by mid-yr.

However, Federal and State authorities have so far failed to conduct health impact studies and 'Emergency Response Plans' that are required for an N-Sub visit to Port Adelaide / Osborne. Port Adelaide has never had an N-Sub visit and the SA public have been denied their 'Right to Know' the extent of health and socioeconomic impacts in a potential N-Sub reactor accident.

READ ON



US warship to visit Darwin in bid to enhance Aussie relations

NT News report: Aussie sailors aboard the vessel are getting firsthand experience in how to repair nuclear submarines, which the American warship specialises in.

Attack on democratic rights



With acknowledgement to Sydney Criminal Lawyers, 15/05/2024

"Don't Blow the Whistle", Australia Warns, as It Imprisons Lawyer for Exposing War Crimes

by Paul Gregoire

Australians are raised on ideas of freedom, justice and equality: principles that the nation is said to embody, and its defence forces uphold.

And it's implicitly understood that serving military officers take no pleasure in committing acts that are usually criminal, as it's a sacrifice made for the greater good.

READ ON

Sovereignty & Defence

With acknowledgement to Pearls & Irritations, 3rd June,2024

Neutrality would keep us out of a U.S. - China war

by Bevan Ramsden

Neutrality offers Australia a foreign policy alternative which would keep us out of a U.S.-China war. Although this position is favoured by over two thirds of Australians, the presence of U.S. military bases on our soil and the government's embrace of the AUKUS pact, block its adoption.

READ ON



With acknowledgement to Pearls & Irritations, 31st May,2024

Collision course: the National Defence Strategy and the China – Russia Joint Statement

by Cameron Leckie

Australia is on a collision course with the major source of our prosperity. The collision is not yet a fait accompli. To avoid the collision will require breaking the shackles of the Rules-Based

Order. Australia faces a geopolitical conundrum of major, if not epic, proportions.

READ ON



TUVALU'S FORMER PRIME MINISTER ENELE SOPOAGA (IMAGE: AAP/MICK TSIKAS)

Crickey, 29th April, 2024

Pacific elder excoriates Australia on AUKUS panel with Bob Carr

By Dr Wanning Sun

Referring to the new treaty deal between Australia and Tuvalu Enele Sopoaga said:

'In all my years of politics I have never seen anything so brazen and disrespectful.'

"It's neo-colonialism at it's worst"

(Extract)

Sopoaga believes AUKUS shows a "contemptuous disregard for Pacific regionalism", stating that nuclear-powered submarines could only inflame regional tensions and make the region less secure and stable.

He also couched his critique in a historical context, reminding the audience of the Pacific having been a "dumping ground" for nuclear wastes by the US, the UK and France in the past. For this reason, allowing nuclear-powered statement submarines to travel through the region shows a "shameful disregard for the long and tragic history that the Pacific has suffered from the detonation of nuclear weapons".

Sopoaga views AUKUS through the lens of the future as well as the past. He referred to the Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union, a new between Australia and Tuvalu, which will create a special visa pathway for Tuvalu's residents to escape the threat of climate change. In return, Tuvalu cannot enter into any security pact with China without Canberra's approval.

Read complete article HERE



Seen at Sydney
Hyde Park Rally in
support of
Palestinians

The Budget and Government spending priorities



Feds pledge \$14-18 billion to bolster northern defence bases

The federal government's 2024 Integrated Investment Program has allocated \$14-\$18 billion over the next decade to strengthen bases in the NT, northern Queensland and northern Western Australia and contribute to enhanced collective security of the Indo-Pacific.

In Darwin for a defence summit, Defence Industry Minister Pat Conroy said "the lion's share "of the funding would flow to the Territory.

"Nearly \$400 million on the Robertson Barracks redevelopment, \$1.5 billion on RAAF Base Tindal, hundreds of millions of dollars going into the United States Force Posture Initiatives training areasthey 're just a few examples of the billions of dollars that will go into the NT to develop these bases, which means a safer and stronger ADF and more jobs for Territorians"



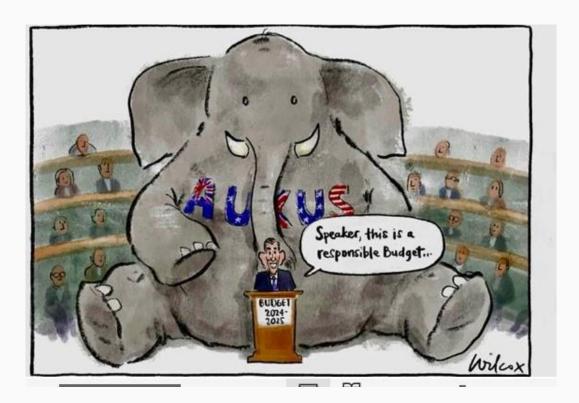
'Come clean on AUKUS funding'

Grassroots anti-AUKUS campaign, Labor Against War, has called on the Federal Labor Government to come clean about just how much it is pouring into US and UK coffers to rebuild their ageing nuclear shipyards, both of which build nuclear-armed submarines.

Marcus Strom, national convenor of Labor Against War, said: "It's quite telling that the budget papers don't reveal how much of the \$2.6 billion earmarked next year for AUKUS is going straight into the pockets of the US military machine to rebuild their shipyards. "It's a travesty of democracy and transparency that we have to trawl through papers of the US Congress to find out how much of our tax dollars are going to fund the US war machine. "That's money that

could be spent here on core Labor values: universal public Medicare, public housing, public education, and the transition to a renewable energy economy."

READ ON



Other Articles



MEDIA RELEASE:

Cross-party message of hope demonstrates growing support for Australia to sign the nuclear weapon ban treaty.

In a <u>new video</u> released today, members of the <u>Parliamentary</u> <u>Friends of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons</u> renew their support for Australia joining the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Their joint message demonstrates how parliamentarians from across the political spectrum are working together to see the Treaty signed and ratified.

View video **HERE**

With acknowledgement to Daily Mail, 26th May, 2024

America is actively preparing for war with China with war games

by Will Potter

The United States military is actively preparing to go to war with <u>China</u> over growing fears of an invasion of <u>Taiwan</u>.

Marines from the US and the Philippines have been carrying out ominous war games on small islands a short distance from Taiwan, reports the <u>Wall Street Journal</u>.

The exercises include deploying teams of marines from Chinook helicopters, readying unarmed assault rifles, and scoping out terrain that would hypothetically be used if conflict erupted. The developments are a disturbing glimpse into the perspective of US military leaders as the hostile nation continues to threaten to invade Taiwan. Any direct conflict between the US and China could easily spiral into World War Three, with both nations in possession of <u>nuclear weapons</u> that could destroy the planet.



In anticipation of a potential Chinese invasion of Taiwan, the US military has been carrying
out ominous war games in the Philippines (pictured during a joint exercise with the Philippine
military on May 6, 2024)
 Provided by Daily Mail

With acknowledgement to Pearls & Irritations, 30th May,2024

Will the Cocos Islands become like Diego Garcia, highjacked by the US?

By John Menadue

The 2000 residents of Diego Garcia were forcibly removed to make

way for a giant US military base.

Will the same happen to the 593 Australian residents on the Cocos Islands that lies south of Sumatra in the Indian ocean? The Australian Government has committed over \$600 million to the military upgrade of the run-way and support services on Cocos.

When Julia Gillard allowed US marines to be rotated/based in Darwin there was widespread speculation that Cocos was on the US shopping list and that Australia was a seller.

READ ON

NATO's Pacific War Games

June 5, 2024- Ann Wright

One-third of the countries joining RIMPAC's maneuvers in the Pacific this summer are not from Asia and the Pacific, says Ann Wright. They are from Europe and are all members of NATO.

As the United States increases its military confrontation with China through new military bases on Guam and the Philippines and more land, sea and air exercises with Asia-Pacific countries, the world's largest naval war exercises will be held in the mid-Pacific from June 26 to Aug. 2 and NATO — from the other side of the world — is in the middle of it.

Twenty nine countries are participating in the 2024 Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) naval war practice that will bring 40 ships, three submarines, over 150 aircraft, 14 national land forces and 25,000 personnel to the island of Oahu and the waters off Hawaii.

Incredibly, one-third of the countries bringing ships, submarines and aircraft to the middle of the Pacific are not from Asia and the Pacific, but are from Europe — all members of the North ATLANTIC Treaty Organization (NATO).

READ ON

WILPF Peace Women Awards 17th May 2024

Once held annually in Brisbane, these awards are now conducted regularly in conjunction with WILPF's triennial conference. Just Peace QLD Committee member Vikki Henry created these awards in 2011 to recognize the achievements of women who have been most successful in bringing about progress towards peace and justice throughout the world.

This year the awards went to Dr Amanda Ruler, Dr Michelle Maloney, Dr Alice Jill Edwards, Aunty Patricia Anderson AO and Professor Megan Davis. This link will give further information about these extraordinary women: SAVE the DATE: WILPF Australia PeaceWomen Awards 2024 - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Media Spokesperson was WILPF Australia President (former Senator): Margaret Reynolds AC. Margaret and (former senator)

Claire Moore presented the awards. Alice Jill Edwards as unable to attend in person.



L to R: Megan Davis, Pat Anderson, Amanda Ruler, Michelle Maloney, and Margaret Reynolds

Coming Events

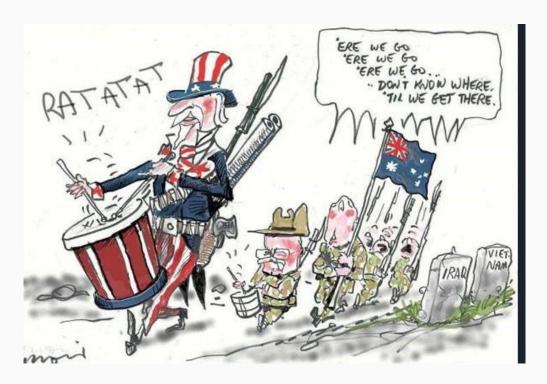


Welcome to 3CR RADIOTHON!

3CR is community-owned and community-run, and throughout the

month of June we really need your support. Your tax deductible donation enables us to be independent, radical and a true voice for the community.

DONATE HERE



Independence- Breaking the US stranglehold on Australia

4th July, 7pm National Webinar organised by the Australian Anti-AUKUS Coalition (AAAC)

Speakers include:

Richard Tanter (Nautilus Institute) - US Bases and the US military stranglehold

Alison Broinowski (former Australian Diplomat)- The US political stranglehold

Brian Toohey (Jounalist) - The US economic stranglehold

Greg Barns (Human Rights Lawyer) - Impact on Democratic Rights Details: antiaukuscoalition@gmail.com

Building Peace in our Region

Sunday, 4th August, 6pm- National Webinar organised by the Australian Anti-AUKUS Coalition (AAAC)
Speakers from Australia, Guam, Okinawa, Sth Korea, Philippines, Malaysia, NZ, and others regional neighbours
Details: antiaukuscoalition@gmail.com

A peaceful future and AUKUS don't mix!"

Tuesday, 6th August, 6- 8pm, NSW Teachers Federation
Auditorium, 37 Reservoir Street, organised by Mobilise against
AUKUS and War (MAAW)
Speakers include:

Dr Sue Wareham (Medical Association for the Prevention of War)
Dr Wanning Sun (Australia China Relations Institute)
Plus a speaker from the Union Movement
(Allan Hicks (Electrical Trades Union) has been invited.



Ending all wars means closing all military bases. The United States of America, unlike any other nation, maintains a massive network of foreign military bases around the world, over 900 bases in more than 90 countries and territories.

READ ON

RAPID PUBLIC RESPONSE

In the event of an imminent major military conflict, military invasion or war actually breaking out, IPAN organisations in the following states, urge everyone to rally:

In Melbourne, outside the State Library in Swanston St, Melbourne, from 5pm that evening- bring banners and placards - family and friends

In Adelaide, on Parliament Steps at 4.30 pm that evening – bring banners and placards – family and friends.

In Newcastle, at the Clocktower, Hamilton, 4.30pm that evening-bring banners and placards and tell family and friends

In Canberra, on the median strip at the corner of London Circuit and Northbourne Ave.

In Brisbane, at King George Square, 5 pm

Voice is produced and edited by the Media Group of the IPAN co-ordinating committee. It is produced for IPAN affiliates to:

*provide a medium for communication of their campaigns and activities
*provide a medium for discussion of issues central to IPAN's objectives
*provide affiliates with details of co-ordinating committee activities, media
releases, lobbying activities and other actions taken on behalf of IPAN
* provide information on issues/events relating to IPAN's objectives
Contributions to Voice, in information or comment, should be emailed to:
Ipan.australia@gmail.com and limited, if possible to 200 words.

The Media Group takes editorial responsibility for choice of content and is responsible to the IPAN co-ordinating committee. Disclaimer: Voice publishes a range of articles which reflect the broad movement for an independent and peaceful Australia but not all articles will necessarily reflect IPAN's position."

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