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US to store bombs, missiles, munitions in Melbourne out of reach of Chinese missiles

SBS News

The first land stockpile in the Asia-Pacific region is expected to open this year in the Philippines, close to potential flashpoints in the South China Sea.

Documents published by the US navy this month show advanced planning for an even larger Australian stockpile, with US\$30 million (\$42.4M) allocated to build warehouses and offices in southeastern Victoria state for "critical forward provisioning".

The Australian stockpile, expected to reach full capacity by 2028, will be kept in Melbourne before being moved to US warehouses to be constructed next year at an Australian military base at Bandiana in rural Victoria, tender documents show.

MSN AFP news

US Marine Corps plans for a crisis-ready stockpile in Australia are part of a "growing US footprint" in the country and important for national security, Defence Minister Richard Marles said Wednesday.

"An American logistics footprint is part of its overall force posture on the continent," he said.

IPAN Activities

IPAN Media Release: 6th July, 2026:

National Peace Group condemns US weapons stockpile on Australian soil as a threat to sovereignty and peace

- Plans to stockpile US weapons in rural Victoria is in preparation for war against China
- This stockpiling will lock Australia into US war plans and will compromise our sovereignty
- The Australian Government must halt the US weapons stockpiles plans immediately

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IPAN National Conference 2026- Adelaide- 24-26th July, 2026

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Independent and Peaceful Australia Network

IPAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026

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Friday 24th July – Sunday 26th July 2026

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events.humanitix.com/lpan-national-conference-2026

IPAN PATRONS

Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe AO · Kellie Tranter, Lawyer & Human Rights Activist

Includes Climate Crisis, Indigenous Rights, AUKUS, Palestine, World Order/Disorder and the urgency to break free of the USA

Apart from informative and inspirational speakers the conference includes a wide range of workshops in which skills and tools for campaigning can be gained

[Book now with this link](#) (Click on the "Register" box)

This will be a unique opportunity to engage, learn and organise with leading analysts and campaigners others who are working for peace and Australian independence.

Key Presenters:

Abby Martin US activist Filmmaker Earth's Greatest Enemy https://youtu.be/rphBWk15_h4

Prof Richard Tanter, Expert on US bases in Australia

Senator David Shoebridge Greens spokesperson for Defence

Sue Hazeldine Indigenous elder

Nick Hanna, Civil Rights Lawyer defending democratic rights protesters

Rodrigo Acuna independent Latin American affairs specialist

Naek Fores Guam peace activist

Mike Khizan AFOPA Australian Friends of Palestine Assn

Emma Shortis Expert on US empire (the Australia Institute)

Humphrey McQueen (Historian)

IPAN speakers Derek Burke, Bevan Ramsden and Shirley Winton



In the first two weeks of the US-Israeli war on Iran, 5 million tons of CO2 were emitted into the atmosphere.

In this film a US foreign policy reporter and her Iraq veteran husband turn their sights on the hidden impact the US military has on the planet, after the birth of their first child creates anxiety about the climate crisis. Their investigation exposes a secretive and constantly-expanding web of pollution, cover-ups and unaccountability by the world's biggest polluter.

Australia-wide screenings of Abby Winter's Film : "Earth's Greatest Enemy", organised by IPAN

Booking details of film showings in your city [http://https://linktr.ee/ipan_earths_greatest_enemy]**HERE**



Abby Martin went to Israel and its worse than you think. View **HERE**

IPAN Call on Supporters - Donating to improve outreach and effectiveness of IPAN

Donate **HERE**

Israel and the US and the war on Gaza, Lebanon and Iran



Protest in Brisbane outside US Chamber of Commerce

Members of groups in Brisbane held a protest on 1st July when the Qld Premier Crisafulli was hosted as guest speaker at a lunch by the American Chamber of Commerce for American Independence Day. The protest was organised jointly by Unionists for Palestine, IPAN and Just Peace Qld. Speakers highlighted the Qld Govt repressive laws on free speech (making the phrases "from the river to the sea" and "globalise the intifada" illegal and open to jail terms if they are uttered in public). They also focussed on the AUKUS project, the huge funds poured into a program to make Australia less secure, and the repressive actions of the United States over the past 60 years in sanctioning and starving the people of Cuba



IPAN Geelong and Vic South west in action-

Peak Hour outside weapons manufacturer Marand Engineering

AUKUS

The AUKUS Public Inquiry



Excerpts from submissions to the AUKUS Public Inquiry, Melbourne and Perth Hearings

Former Foreign Minister **Gareth Evans** argued that the AUKUS

submarine deal was fundamentally misconceived from its inception, questioning whether the agreement serves Australia's national interest and warning of the strategic and financial risks of locking Australia into US military ambitions.

Associate Professor **Tilman Ruff** AO presented on the nuclear non-proliferation implications of AUKUS, warning that Australia acquiring nuclear-powered submarines under this plan sets a deeply dangerous precedent for global disarmament efforts.

Barbara Jackson spoke as a concerned citizen at the AUKUS Public Inquiry's first public hearing in Naarm/Melbourne, delivering a powerful submission on what AUKUS means for Australian sovereignty and democratic accountability. She said: *Our democracy is precious. Our sovereignty is precious. And right now, both have been quietly traded away in an arrangement that serves American strategic interests far more than our own.*"

Richard Tanter addressed the inquiry's first public hearing in Naarm/Melbourne, arguing that Australia has subordinated its strategic policy to American alliance politics with no serious public accountability for the consequences. He said: *"There is no legal or policy impediment to nuclear-armed submarines operating from Australian waters. By 2032 — about two normal elections away in Australia — this is something we have to face."*

The Guardian reports on **Gareth Evans'** testimony at the Melbourne hearing, where he argued AUKUS Pillar One is "more likely than not" to prove one of Australia's worst defence and foreign policy decisions.

A former Western Australian public health chief, **Dr Colin Hughes** has warned the AUKUS inquiry that there is a 'nuclear disaster waiting to happen', arguing there is no safety plan to protect Perth communities in the event of a major nuclear accident at naval base HMAS Stirling. Dr Hughes described a worst-case scenario involving a major incident at a submarine servicing facility, triggering explosions, fires, radiation leaks and mass evacuations across Perth's southern suburbs.

John Lander, Former deputy ambassador to China, said: "Part of the rationale for AUKUS is the requirement to protect Australia's sea lanes from possible interdiction by China, ignoring the fact that China has an existential interest in keeping those same sea lanes open, because it is the largest trading partner of the vast majority of the world. The only

country poised to blockade them is the US.”

David Sweeney, anti-nuclear campaigner ad ACF said: “AUKUS means the routine presence of nuclear-powered vessels in our waters and ports. This is a new development, and it's one with significant safety, health, and security implications. There has been little discussion or detail around emergency preparations and response capacity. And there are currently far more questions than answers. What are the implications for combat agencies and first responders? Do they have the resources, the training, the capability? What are the risks and the recourse that's available to port communities and port workers? What are the implications for insurance? What's the rationale for the exemption from compliance with existing state and territory radiation health and nuclear safety regulations?”

Liberal rebel and former intelligence officer **Jonathan Huston** warns AUKUS is ‘emasculating’ Australia’s Army

The Nedlands MP told the inquiry, being headed by Former Federal Labor Minister Peter Garrett and former WA Premier Carmen Lawrence, that AUKUS could spark a regional arms race.

“We are building the most expensive, second hand, fish in a barrel, provocative open air target in Australian history,” he said.

And he’s argued it would undermine Australia’s sovereignty.

“AUKUS will turn the Royal Australia Navy and a submarine fleet into a franchise, of US specifically,” Mr Huston said.

“It will be an asset flying our flag, but effectively under their operational, not control, but they’ll have the ability to flick the kill switch.”

The Inquiry is still open for submissions [HERE](#)



IPAN Podcast

[**The AUKUS Inquiry and reasons for cancellation of AUKUS**](#)

Listen [HERE](#)

Community Survey on AUKUS in SA

The Greens are currently running a survey to gather community views on AUKUS and its implications for South Australia, public spending, jobs, industry and our broader future. Given IPAN's longstanding work

on these issues, we thought your members and supporters would have valuable perspectives to contribute.

Survey link: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8892183/AUKUS>

US pushing to establish itself at HMAS Stirling in WA

This report from Defence Connect, 15th June, 2026:

Australia, the United States and the United Kingdom have taken another major step towards establishing the AUKUS Submarine Rotational Force - West, with key support infrastructure and personnel arrangements now being put in place at HMAS Stirling in Western Australia.

A key element of the announcement is the re-establishment of US Submarine Squadron 3, which will oversee the operation of American nuclear-powered submarines rotating through HMAS Stirling under the SRF-West arrangement. The squadron will work closely with Australian and British personnel to help develop the maintenance, logistics and operational systems Australia will require to support and sustain its future sovereign submarine capability.

READ ON

US alliance, "defence" and consequences



Australia's secret embrace of US nuclear planning

by Jessie Boylan (ICAN)

(This article is republished from [Declassified Australia](#) under a Creative Commons license. Read the [original article](#).)



Spied here in Darwin, this USAF B-52H long-range bomber is a 'nuclear-capable' variant. It may be carrying nuclear weapons, but we are not permitted to know. Tail-number 60-0012 of the US Air Force's 69th Bomb Squadron, 5th Bomb Wing, is from Minot Airforce Base way over yonder in North Dakota, USA. (Photo: ©Peter Cronau) *Australia's subterfuge around its anti-nuclear commitments keeps Australians in the dark about American nuclear weapons on our territory.*

READ ON



*Australia's wealth should be building a stronger nation, not enriching foreign interests (Images via Magnific,
Wikimedia Commons, Adobe Stock)*

With acknowledgement to Independent Australia, 3rd July, 2026

Australia's wealth belongs to its people, not foreign corporations

by Bevan Ramsden

*We've golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature's gifts...*

So our national anthem tells us. But the truth is that whilst our country has immense natural resources and potential wealth, the vast majority

of Australians are deprived of a share in this wealth. And are deprived to the extent that they suffer daily from the economic impact of this deprivation.

Homelessness is on the rise.

Data from the 2021 Census shows that more than 122,000 people in Australia experienced homelessness on Census night. Social housing waitlists remain unacceptably high, with more than a quarter of a million households (254,571 applicants) waiting for social housing, including 122,457 in greatest need on priority waitlists, a 12% increase.

READ ON

International



With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 25th June, 2026

We are spending billions on war and pennies on peace

By Andrew Hassett

Investing in the prevention of conflict is a better way to ensure a safer and more prosperous future than money spent preparing for and fighting wars.

We live in an age of extraordinary and dangerous contradiction. The world is wealthier than at any point in human history. Scientific and technological breakthroughs are transforming lives. Yet conflict and inequality are rising, people are being forced from their homes in search of safety at record levels, social cohesion is fraying, and millions of people are losing faith in the institutions designed to protect them.

More than 123 million people around the world have now been forcibly displaced. In Lebanon alone more than one million people have been forced from their homes in search of safety since the outbreak of widespread hostilities across the Middle East in early March. Conflict, economic instability and political exclusion are colliding in ways that are creating unprecedented uncertainty and driving unimaginable human suffering

READ ON

Democratic Rights and Freedom of Speech



The Information Rights Project

Gabriel Shipton says:

The logic that imprisoned Julian, that the person who tells the truth can be prosecuted for it, did not leave with him. It is still working on people who did not have fourteen years of campaigning and a global movement behind them.

David McBride is in prison today. Two years in. He told the truth about unlawful conduct by Australian special forces. The soldiers whose conduct he exposed face no charges. He does.

A lobby group took Mary Kostakidis to the Federal Court for her journalism. Her trial is set for November.

Marcus, a former ASIO agent, is in hiding after going public with alleged Bondi intelligence failures.

Three people who did what Julian did. Without the world watching.

The Information Rights Project exists because of what we learned in those fourteen years. We became the organisation that shows up for the people who come after Julian.

We are in the middle of our first anniversary fundraiser. 1,027 supporters have given \$62,357 toward our \$150,000 target. Every case above stays supported only if we reach it by 3 July.

Every donation of \$2 or more is tax-deductible. The financial year closes on 30 June, so your gift before Sunday midnight counts toward your 2025-26 return.

On the anniversary of Julian's freedom, I am asking you to stand with the people who came after him.

DONATE HERE

WATCH: 'THE CONSCIENCE' OF THE SBS TV NETWORK

Broadcast June 18, 2026 [WATCH: 'The Conscience' of the SBS TV Network](#)

Mary Kostakidis was known as “the face” of Australia’s SBS evening news. A former head of SBS TV told **CN**’s award ceremony that Kostakidis was the “conscience” of SBS, for among things, wanting to tell the Palestinians’ story.

Antidotes for pepper spray

The best antidotes for pepper spray include rinsing with water, using dairy products like milk, and applying baking soda or commercial decontamination products.

Effective Remedies for Pepper Spray Exposure

1. **Rinse with Water:** Start by flushing the affected area with cool, clean water. This helps to dilute the capsaicin, the active ingredient in pepper spray, but may not be sufficient on its own due to the oil-based nature of capsaicin.
2. **Use Dairy Products:** Dairy products, particularly whole milk or yogurt, can effectively neutralize the burning sensation. Capsaicin is o

ilbased, and dairy helps to break down the oils. You can apply milk directly to the skin or soak a cloth in it and place it on the affected area.

3. **Baking Soda Paste:** Mixing baking soda with water to create a paste can help neutralize the acidity caused by pepper spray. Apply the paste to the affected skin for a few minutes before rinsing it off.

Coming Events

BRISBANE: Solidarity with the Pine Gap Convergence: July

18: From July 18-20, people from across the continent will converge in Mparntewe/Alice Springs to protest against Pine Gap – the US military’s spy base situated in the middle of Australia. You can join the convergence in solidarity by celebrating some of the decades of resistance that has managed to at least keep Pine Gap and its operations in the public eye.

This event will be held in the lecture theatre adjoining the gallery space at the Queensland College of Art and Design (Griffith Uni Southbank campus) on July 18.

Facebook event

page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2110016296228168>

SYDNEY: Sunday 19 July CLOSE PINE GAP SPY BASE – Stop the genocide; Freedom for Palestine; Stop arming Israeli and US war crimes. Land back. Protest at the US Consulate, 50 Miller St, North Sydney. Solidarity rally in Sydney while others are at the convergence.

National: Events planned around the International Day of Peace 21st September

HOBART: IPAN Tas is organising a **Party for Peace** with the anti-war coalition here in Lutruwita/Tasmania on Parliament lawns Saturday 19/9

We are planning a full day of music, micro forums, food, and activities

BRISBANE:

1 The 15th Annual IDP Brisbane Peace Lecture on Monday 21st September, with a theme on the Incarceration of young people around Australia, and in particular the current incarceration age of 10 years, and the Qld Government attitude on "Adult Crime, Adult Time"

2. A talk to annual U3A public affairs group on "**A very disturbing world - how do we in Australia respond?**", focussing on US interventions around the world, Australian ties to the US and how we can respond.

3 A public meeting on 7th or 14th September on the them of Peace and Unions, with a number of union leaders in Brisbane speaking

CANBERRA: Stop supporting US and Israeli Wars

The Canberra rally to mark the UN Day of Peace will be held at 12.30pm on Thursday 17 September on the Parliament House lawns. Speakers include Senator Mehreen Faruqi, UNAA ACT Division President, Brian Gleeson, Indigenous leader Leah House and Amnesty speaker, Sara Abdelmawgoud.

MELBOURNE: Sunday 20 September:

Rally 2pm outside US Consulate, 533 St Kilda Rd.
Peace not War, Cancel AUKUS, End the US alliance, Close Pine Gap,
Stop US weapons stockpiling. noaukusvic@gmail.com

IPAN GEELONG & VIC SOUTHWEST

PEAK HOUR FOR PEACE IN PALESTINE

 WEEKLY
ACTION IN
DJILANG/GEELONG
 ROADSIDE
COMMUNITY
EDUCATION

WHEN: Most Fridays from 4:00–5:00 pm, plus one Saturday each month from 11:00 am–12:00 pm.

WHERE: We gather at a different location each week, giving us the chance to explore and connect across our community. Each week's location is shared on our social media and emailed to our mailing list, so everyone can stay in the loop.



@palestineactionsgeelongandwvic



ipangeelongandswvic@gmail.com



IPAN Geelong & Victoria Southwest

IPAN Geelong & Vic South West have this regular protest and invite you to join.



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Email: ipan.australia@gmail.com

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](mailto: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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Our emailing address is:

[Ipan.australia@gmail.com](mailto:ipan.australia@gmail.com)

Our mailing address is:

IPAN

PO Box 573

Coorparoo, Qld 4151

Australia