

If you are new to receiving IPAN's publication, "Voice" , please note that if you do not want to receive this publication in future, you can un-subscribe by clicking the words at the bottom of this publication.



[www.ipan.org.au](http://www.ipan.org.au)

### **In this issue:**

- \* Editorial: All eyes on North Korea-United States Summit in Singapore with the hope for peace on Korean Peninsula as an outcome
- \* Women for a Korea peace treaty- from Sung Hee, South Korean peace activist
- \* Military build up of U.S. & Australian forces in Darwin is preparation for future U.S. conflict in Asia
- \* Investigations into Darwin-based US marines accused of sexual crimes dropped
- \* Australian SAS soldiers committed war crimes in Afghanistan
- \* Joined at the hip to a dangerous ally that is almost always at war- John Menadue
- \* Public Meeting to launch IPAN's 'Give 'em the boot' campaign
- \* The European Union takes a stand against Trump on US embargo on Iran
- \* IPAN takes off in South West Victoria

- \* Oppose the weapons export industry- petition & rally in Sydney
- \* Nuclear disarmament: the ALP needs to commit to join the UN Nuclear Weapons Ban
- \* IPAN urges ALP to support the UN Ban the Bomb Treaty in a submission to the coming ALP Conference
- \* 'Cut your ties': Student disrupts graduation ceremony to expose weapons links
- \* Join us to Protest Razan's death- Canberra on Fridays in June - AJPP
- \* JUST PEACE rallies in Brisbane on the Global Day of Military Spending protest
- \* Politics in the Pub : Ban the Bomb discussion, organised by Just Peace
- \* UN Peacekeepers Day Brisbane
- \* Wage Peace: Rally at Melbourne County Court, Vic, Lead campaigner needed
- \* Melbourne's Community Radio Station 3CR needs your support for its Radiothon fund raiser
- \* IPAN member org. Ngara hosts Gillian Triggs at its annual activist lecture
- \* Alternatives to Violence Program Queensland (AVPQ) offers training to more groups in Qld
- \* Broad Left Event: 23rd June, Newcastle: Dr Vince Scappatura; Foreign Interference- American soft power influence on Australian politics & culture
- \* RAPID Public Response Arrangements to any imminent military conflict or war breaking out
- \* COMING EVENTS SUMMARY



**Editorial:**  
**All eyes on North Korea-  
United States Summit in  
Singapore with the hope  
for peace on Korean  
Peninsula as an outcome**

Peace-loving organisations, such as IPAN, and indeed peace-loving people all around the world are looking to the June 12th Summit in Singapore to produce a peace treaty and bring reconciliation to the Korean Peninsula.

Considering the belligerent exchange of words and threats which emanated from the United States and North Korea last year, the achievement of a peace summit appears almost like a miracle.

The path to the summit has been paved, to a degree, by the peaceful cooperation already achieved between North and South Korea during the Winter Olympics and in a series of talks between the South Korean President Moon Jae-in and the North Korean Chairman Kim Jon-un since then. In fact it could be argued that the US felt sidelined by this North-South dialogue and agreed to the summit to bring themselves back, “centre-stage”. However, the summit has been beset with doubts exacerbated by the on/off responses by the United States and consequential responses by North Korea.

And it has not been helpful for the ex-US Marines General and now U.S. Secretary of Defence, James Mattis to threaten North Korea with a Gaddafi-scenario if they don't comply completely with United States demands on denuclearisation.

And despite protests from North Korea, it has not helped to set the stage for a successful peace summit, for the United States with South Korea staging

threatening war exercises south of the North Korea border within the weeks preceding the proposed talks.

The positives are that North Korea has agreed to discuss curtailment of their nuclear weapons program and to shut down missile sites ahead of the peace talks.

There should be no doubt however, that each side has to make compromises in order for the much-hoped- for permanent peace outcomes to be achieved.

For North Korea to shut down its nuclear weapons program and close down missile sites and allow international inspection for compliance, it would be entitled to expect the United States, as a minimum, to remove the threat posed to North Korea by its U.S. forces and bases and the US Thaad Missile defence system in South Korea.

Our Australian Government has been remarkably quiet concerning this summit; one might have hoped for some positive expressions to come from them.



**Photo and report from Sung He in South Korea (Je Jung Island)**

**Yes, Peace! No War!  
Peace Treaty! Right Now!  
No, Women, No Peace!  
Yes, Women! Yes, Peace!**

**Military build up of U.S. & Australian forces in  
Darwin is preparation for future U.S. conflict in  
Asia**



U.S. Marines in coming war exercises to be imbedded on HMAS  
Adelaide now equipped with amphibious landing gear

This article is from the Wall St Journal of 24th May, 2018 and was titled:  
**"Darwin evolves: US Military turns Australian Outpost into Asia launch  
pad". "**

"At an army base on the city's outskirts, the largest deployment of U.S.  
Marines stationed in Australia in decades recently began drills aimed at  
preparing for any future conflict in Asia.

Darwin's location, 400 miles from the Indonesian archipelago and 1,700  
miles from the South China Sea, provides what could serve as a springboard  
for U.S. forces in the region.

"This place is of huge importance to the United States," said the Marines'  
Darwin commander, Col. Jay Schnelle. "The Australian-America relationship  
underpins peace and security in the Indo-Pacific region."

The U.S. and Australia have begun a multibillion-dollar improvement of air  
bases in northern Australia to accommodate stealth warplanes and long-  
range maritime patrol drones, and are building wharves and refueling points  
for visiting warships in Darwin -- part of a \$150 billion upgrade of Australia's  
military.

Over the coming months, the Marines will embed for the first time on  
Australian amphibious assault ships and practice humanitarian-disaster  
operations and combat skills. The Marines will be joining troops from the  
Philippines, Japan and Pacific island countries here and on Australia's east  
coast."

For complete article : **READ ON**

# Investigations into Darwin-based US marines accused of sexual crimes dropped

By Dylan Welch and John Stewart  
Updated 15 Feb 2018, 6:18am



US Marine rifleman on patrol in training exercise, Cultana training area , SA

**A series of investigations into alleged sexual crimes committed by US marines in and around Darwin have been quietly dropped by Australian and American authorities, ABC News can reveal.**

That decision raises questions about whether Australia and the US are doing enough to investigate claims of sex crimes, and echoes decades of international concern about the cover-up of those crimes by US military personnel serving abroad.

**To know want to know more about this story?**

Email [investigations@abc.net.au](mailto:investigations@abc.net.au)

## **Australian SAS soldiers committed war crimes in Afghanistan**



SMH 8/6/18 - Nick McKenzie Chris Masters

Some members of Australia's elite special forces allegedly committed war crimes in Afghanistan amid a "complete lack of accountability" from the military chain of command, a confidential defence inquiry has found.

The report reveals that special forces insiders have confidentially disclosed "unsanctioned and illegal application of violence op operations" by Australian special forces' soldiers which extends to a "disregard for human life and dignity".

The inquiry was commissioned in 2016 by the then Special Operations Commander Major General Jeff Sengelman and was backed by incoming defence force chief Angus Campbell.

## **Joined at the hip to a dangerous ally that is almost always at war**

A repost by John Menadue, Pearls & Irritations, [9 June 2018](#)

We are a nation in denial that we are 'joined at the hip' to a dangerous ally. Apart from brief isolationist periods, the US has been almost perpetually at war; wars that we have often foolishly been drawn into. The US has subverted and overthrown numerous governments over two centuries. It has a military and business complex, almost a 'hidden state', that depends on war for influence and enrichment. It believes in its 'manifest destiny' which brings with it an assumed moral superiority which it denies to others. The problems did not start with Trump. They are long standing and deep rooted.

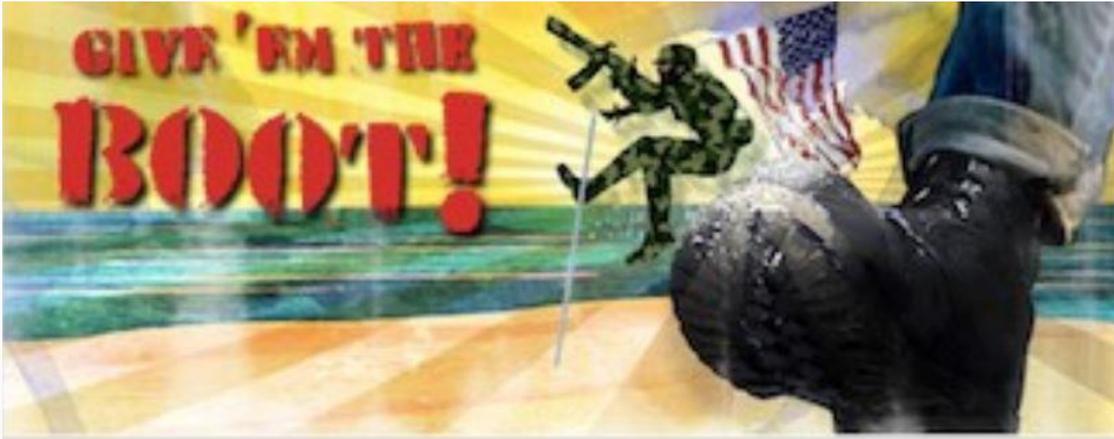
We are running great risks in committing so much of our future to the US. We must build our security in our own region and not depend so exclusively on a foreign protector.

Unfortunately many of our political, bureaucratic, business and media elites have been so long on an American drip feed that they find it hard to think of the world without an American focus.. We had a similar and dependant view of the UK in the past. That ended in tears in Singapore.

**[READ COMPLETE ARTICLE](#)**

# **Public Meeting to launch IPAN's 'Give 'em the boot' campaign**

**Tuesday, 17th July, 6.30pm NSW Teachers Federation  
Auditorium**



The Public Meeting is titled:

## **Keeping Australia out of U.S. Wars**

Three authoritative speakers on the need for an independent foreign policy for Australia

### **An independent foreign policy, peace for Korea & Australia's role-**

Richard Broinowski, former Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, South Korea and Mexico and immediate past President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs in New South Wales.

**The urgent need for an independent foreign policy- Lee Rhiannon**, NSW Senator and long time peace and justice campaigner

**“Give’em the boot!”- Nick Deane, on IPAN’s Campaign to terminate the Force Posture Agreement with the U.S.A. and send the U.S. Marines back home.**

**Followed by Q & A Session with Panel  
Chaired by Annette Brownlie, Chairperson of IPAN**

**Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 6.30-8.30pm**

NSW Teachers Federation Auditorium, entry 33 Reservoir St, Surry Hills, NSW

\$10 entrance (\$5 concession).

Book at <https://www.trybooking.com/392122>

For queries: Bevan Ramsden 0418 697 528

## **The European Union takes a stand against Trump on US embargo on Iran**



Confrontation between Germany's Chancellor Merkel and US President Trump at recent G7 summit

SMH 8/6/18 -Nick miller

The European Union is trying to prevent the collapse of the Iran nuclear deal.

.....

The EU is adopting a new rule banning European companies from complying with US sanctions (against Iran)....The so-called “blocking statute” is a 20 year old law originally drawn up to resist the United States embargo against Cuba. It orders all EU citizens and companies not to comply with the US embargo under threat of unspecified punishment.... The commission also endorsed a decision to impose new import duties of up to 50% on a long list of US products..... as part of the EU’s response to the US tariffs on (their) steel and aluminium products.

## **IPAN takes off in South West Victoria**



Report from Julie Hart

A fledgling IPAN group has started in South West Victoria.

Members, Gillian Blair and Julie Hart invited Shirley Winton, Victorian coordinator of the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network to Warrnambool and Portland in May.

Hitting the ground running, Shirley spoke on ABC FM and 3WAY FM community radio stations in Warrnambool, and we obtained an interview with 'The Standard' Warrnambool's newspaper, regarding the two meetings being held in Portland the following day. (article attached).

Alarming, on the Princes Highway leading into Portland, we noticed the wording on a huge QMS Billboard: "*JOIN THE THOUSANDS OF BUSINESSES IN THE WORKFORCE BEHIND THE DEFENCE FORCE*". Concerned about the Federal Government's propaganda sign we did a U turn and Shirley took a photograph. The government has announced that \$3.8 billion of public money will be invested in the Arms Export industry to make Australia the 10th biggest Arms Exporter in the world. It claims the \$3.8 billion will support small local businesses and generate jobs in Australia. However, there is no evidence that the benefits would actually go to Australian companies and jobs.

The Portland meetings realized enough enthusiastic people to start up a regional IPAN group, and we thank Shirley Winton for travelling almost to the SA border to speak to us. Margaret Donehue, Secretary of the South West Trades and Labour Council, has kindly offered the venue for our monthly meetings.



## **OPPOSE WEAPONS EXPORT INDUSTRY !**

---

Consider signing the petition calling on Government to stop pushing Australian arms exports:

<https://www.change.org/p/prime-minister-of-australia-stop-pushing-australian-arms-exports>

**Rally at Queen Victoria Statue, QVB, Sydney  
CBD, Sat 30th June, 12 noon**

Protest Government using \$3,8 billion promoting arms export industry- rally leaflet reads:

## What sort of Australia do you want to live in?

One which sells weapons to fuel wars and misery in the Middle East?

OR

One which seeks peace and cares for people's basic needs?



OR



***By symbolically destroying the Australian Military Sales Catalogue today, we demonstrate our opposition to the Government spending \$3.8 billion our tax money to promote the manufacture and export of weapons of war, that only bring death and misery to overseas countries.***

**The Government's active promotion of weapons sales must stop.**

We demand that our government stops building up the weapons export industry, and, instead, builds a more peaceful and caring Australia. Money is needed for schools, hospitals, housing and pensions – not for weapons exports.

## **Nuclear disarmament: the ALP needs to commit to join the UN Nuclear Weapons Ban**



The ALP has supported the development of the UN treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We now need to strongly encourage them to update their policy to commit to signing and ratifying the treaty. Their national conference is at the end of July.

**Petition – Please sign to ask the ALP to commit to joining the UN Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty**

at:

<https://www.change.org/p/bill-shorten-nuclear-disarmament-federal-labor-has-the-ability-and-responsibility-to-take-action-against-nuclear-weapons?>

**Submitted by Medical Association for Prevention of War (MAPW)**



## **IPAN urges ALP to support the UN Ban the Bomb Treaty in a submission to the coming ALP Conference**

IPAN's says in its submission to the ALP{ Conference::

"This issue is one of the most important global issues we face and IPAN urges the Labor National Platform to make a commitment to sign and ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in the National Platform.

We urge you to consider these issues deeply, including the human, environmental and political cost and risk of maintaining nuclear weapons, and assist in working for their urgent elimination which is now at hand.

IPAN also endorses the submission put forward by the International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)"

**Click on [READ ON](#) for the complete submission**

## “Cut your ties”: Student disrupts graduation ceremony to expose weapons links

#DisarmUnis

"Shame on you University of Sydney for building technology for war for investing in drones and weaponry to kill civilians that are used in armed conflict every day.

If we want an institution that believes in justice, peacekeeping and research integrity we would drop all ties with weapons manufacturers."



Jodie Pall, a University Medal recipient, disrupts her graduation ceremony by dropping a banner calling on the University of Sydney to cut their connections with weapons manufacturing companies.

## JOIN US TO PROTEST RAZAN'S DEATH

(Razan Al Najjar was the Palestinian medic who saved lives and was shot dead by Israeli sniper)



Al Najjar was the 119th Palestinian killed since the protests began in March, according to Gaza health officials. She had become a fixture at the weekly protests along the fence dividing the Gaza Strip from Israel, a young woman in a white paramedic's uniform rushing into harm's way to help treat the wounded.

The **AJPP is calling for you to join us at a vigil** at the Brisbane entrance to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on the next three Fridays in June from 12.30 -1.30pm to protest the killing of more than a 100 Palestinians in recent weeks and the injuring of thousands and the Australian Government's complicity in these crimes.

Bring your placard or we will have some there for you to hold.

## JUST PEACE rallies in Brisbane on the Global Day of Military Spending protest



Just Peace, rallies at King George Square, Brisbane, to bring attention to the enormous sums of money being spent on militaries in Australia (\$90 million per day) and other countries around the world.

**Stop Wars**

**MAKE LOVE NOT WAR**

how I learnt to stop worrying and  
**BAN THE BOMB!**

**POLITICS IN THE PUB**

**TUES. 12 JUNE**  
6.30 for 7pm - 9pm

**PEEL STREET TAVERN**  
35 Peel St., South Brisbane

**GUEST SPEAKERS**  
Robin Taubenfeld Friends of the Earth  
Dr Daniele Vilunas International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War  
Lenora O'Connor Primary School Teacher  
Anita Reed Korean History expert followed by Q & A

**\$25**  
• delicious finger food  
• cash bar

Distinguished speakers on the subject of banning the bomb and Australia's decision not to support the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Coinciding with US President Donald Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong-un's meeting in Singapore to discuss the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We will try to broadcast this historic meeting live at the event.

Booking essential by 6th June for catering.  
TryBooking.com/385214  
or contact Mike Henry 0410132021

**JUST PEACE QUEENSLAND INC.**  
PO Box 573 Coorparoo, QLD 4151  
Email: justpeaceql4@gmail.com  
facebook.com/JustPeaceQLD

### Politics in the Pub: Ban the Bomb discussion

*Just Peace* has arranged a discussion centred on the need for a ban on nuclear weapons. The discussion will be held in our Politics in the Pub event at the Peel Street Tavern, South

Brisbane, Tuesday, 12th June,  
6.30pm for 7pm to 9pm meeting

## UN Peacekeepers Day in Brisbane



On Saturday 2nd June the annual UN Peacekeepers day was marked in Brisbane by the Qld division of UNAA and supported by Just Peace Qld, WILPF, Blue Beret's and representatives of many communities who have benefited from this service. The President of UNAA Mike Smith spoke of the importance of peacekeeping actions around the world where the skills of so many are put to good use helping communities build trust and a safe environment for conflicts to be resolved peacefully.



## Expose the #ToxicSAS

#theAfghanFiles  
@MarisePayne: where is the report?



August 12, 2018,  
and the following fortnight,  
Melbourne County Court of Victoria.

Wage Peace is looking to support a "lead campaigner for about 6 weeks" to focus public attention and respond to actions in relation to the court case. This is an opportunity for someone to build communication campaigning skills through media releases and communications to subscribers on the Wage Peace List.

**Melbourne's Independent Community Radio  
station, 3CR needs our support  
Give generously - Click on**



**IPAN member org. Ngara hosts Gillian Triggs at  
its annual activist lecture, Sat 30th June,  
5.30pm, Mullumbimby Civic Hall**

**ngara**  
Ralph Summy  
**Annual  
Lecture**  
and  
**Activist of the  
Year Award**  
Speaker  
**Gillian Triggs**  
Former President of the  
Australian Human  
Rights Commission  
Sat June 30 5:30pm  
Mullumbimby Civic Hall  
Doors open at 5:30  
for a 6:30 start  
Tickets:  
\$45  
\$30 Concession  
\$30 Friends of Ngara  
For tickets visit  
ngarainstitute.org.au  
**f** Ngara Institute

**Ngara Institute  
2018 Australian  
Activist of the  
Year Award**  
will be jointly awarded to:  
**Annie Kia and  
The Knitting Nannas**  
For their persistent peaceful and  
creative mobilisation of our  
community against CSG  
at Ngara Institute's Ralph Summy  
Annual Lecture on 30 June 2018  
at the Mullumbimby Civic Hall.  
For tickets visit  
ngarainstitute.org.au  
**f** Ngara Institute

## **Alternatives to Violence Program Queensland (AVPQ) offers training to more groups in Qld**



AVPQ's 7 new Facilitators, plus the Facilitators who ran the training in May. The new Facilitators, who are from a wide variety of backgrounds, will assist us in expanding the Alternatives to Violence program to more groups in Queensland.

Invitation to  
another great  
**BROAD LEFT EVENT**



**Saturday 23 June 2018, 7pm**

**Carrington Bowling Club  
Cowper St, Carrington.**

**Guest speaker: Dr Vince Scappatura, Macquarie University,  
Politics & International Relations Department**

**Topic: Foreign Interference - American soft power  
influence on Australian politics & culture**

## **RAPID Public Response Arrangements**

to any imminent major military conflict or war

In the event of an imminent major military conflict, 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-  
bringing banners and placards and tell family and friends

## **COMING EVENTS SUMMARY:**

**Canberra**, AJPP Vigil at the Brisbane entrance to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on the next three Fridays in June from 12.30 -1.30pm; protest the crimes committed by Israeli soldiers against Palestinian protesters.

**Newcastle**, 23rd June, 7pm, Dr Vince Scappatura: "US soft power influence in Australia" Carrington Bowling Club, Cowper St, Carrington, organised by the Broad Left.

**Sydney**: Sat. 30th June, Protest Rally: Oppose Weapons Export Industry; at QV statue, QVB, Sydney CBD, 12 noon . Protest government using \$3.8 billion promoting arms export industry

**Mullumbimby** Civic Hall, Ngarra Institute Annual Activist Lecture with Gillian Triggs; 5.30pm.

**Newcastle**: Sat. 7th July, 12 noon, Hunter Peace Group Forum: 'Peace, Independence and Keeping Australia out of U.S. wars'; Speakers: Dr Ted Moore, Bevan Ramsden (IPAN). Theo Boougatsas: at 4 Crompton St Hamilton.

**Sydney**, 17th July, 6.30pm, 'Keep Australia out of U.S. wars': IPAN Public Launching of the 'Give 'em the boot' campaign: Speakers: Michael Pembroke ( on Korea), Lee Rhiannon (on an independent Foreign policy) and Nick Deane (on the IPAN campaign) , NSW Teachers Federation, 22 Reservoir St

## Surrey Hills

**Hobart:** WILPF Tas is organising “Drumming for Peace” to be held on UN International Day of Peace on 21 September, from 12-1 p.m. in the Hobart City Mall.

We invite all those who can across Australia to drum something at that time to show the Government we want Australia to sign the UN Ban on Nuclear Weapons.

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."

*Copyright © 2017 IPAN, All rights reserved.*

*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

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)