

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.



In this issue:

- * Successful IPAN conference in Darwin
 - * Friday Night Opening
 - * Saturday: Australian Policy Session
 - * Saturday: Foreign Bases Session
 - * Saturday: War and the Environment Session
 - * Saturday: Protest against US Marines stationed at Robertson Barracks
 - * Sunday: Costs of War Session, Peoples' Inquiry into spending for US wars and the social consequences
 - Sunday: Workshops
 - Sunday: Plenary: Final Conference Resolutions

- * IPAN Media Release: No ! to US Missiles in Australia
- * The escalating military spending by the Australian Gov't
- * Alternative spending on Social Needs

- * American Alliance a choice, not a duty - Sue Wareham
- * Fund Newstart not US wars
- * IPAN (SA) protest outside the Raytheon office in Adelaide
- * Arms exports to Yemen: Tell the story: sign the petition
- * Protest outside EOS Offices
- * Formation of Australian Arms Control Coalition
- * Court rejects indigenous bid to stop nuclear waste facility
- * Tugging our forelock again and again to our dangerous ally- John Menadue
- * An Australian pathway through Pine Gap to the nuclear ban treaty
- Richard Tanter
- * Choosing Humanity: Why Australia must join the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons - ICAN Report
- * South Korea Peace actions - Stop war exercises: start peace talks
- * Right wing Japanese Government fails to get 2/3 majority in election to change the Japanese Pacifist Constitution-Richard Stone
- * Save Julian Assange petition progress- Phillip Adams
- * US war games test Aus-China relations - Bevan Ramsden
- * Ngara Politics in the Pub with Thomas Mayor
- * Rapid Public Response Arrangements to respond to threat of war
- * Coming Events Summary



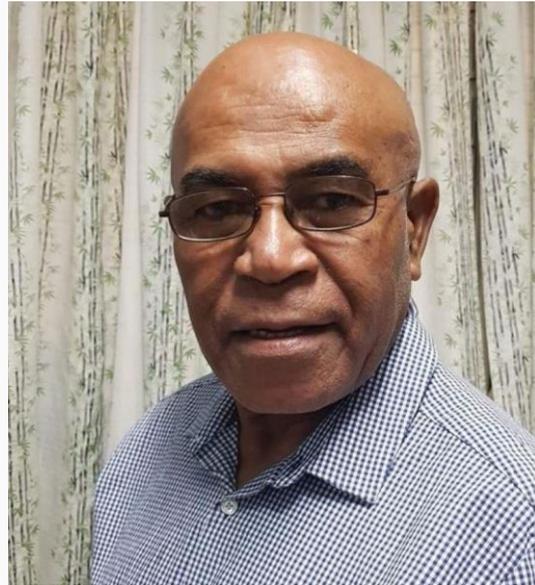
Successful IPAN Conference in Darwin 2-4th August

- * attended by over 90 delegates
- * from all Australian states and NT and ACT
- * included significant Darwin representation including indigenous representation



Walter Craig & Andrew Daniels

Opened Friday night, 2nd August, at Charles Darwin Waterfront Campus with Welcome to Country by Ali Mills followed by Green's Senator Jordan Steele-John whose portfolio is Peace, disarmament and Veterans Affairs , Professor Lisa Natividad from Guam who spoke personally of the impact of the US military occupation of Guam and Dr Sue Wareham who launched the ICAN report "Choosing Humanity"- why Australia must join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons



Saturday 3rd August: Charles Darwin Campus, Casuarina

Australian Foreign Policy Session:

Green's Senator Jordan Steele- John

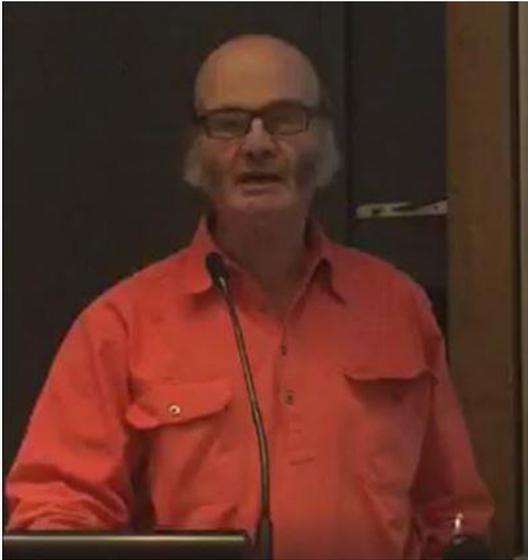
Assoc. Prof. Susan Harris-Rimmer

Henk Rumbawes - West Papua independence Movement

Listen to their speeches and subsequent Q & A at Videos, IPAN

Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndependentAndPeacefulAustraliaNetwork/videos/397887614169421/>



**Saturday, 3rd August: Charles Darwin University Campus,
Casuarina**

Foreign Bases Session

Nick Deane: US Marines out of Darwin-Give 'em the boot

Dr Vince Scappatura: US influence among Australia's elite

Prof. Lisa Natividad: US occupation of Guam and impact of its
military bases

Dr Sue Wareham: ICAN's campaign plans and its Report on Why
Australia must sign the Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons

Listen to their speeches and the subsequent Q & A at Videos on IPAN Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndependentAndPeacefulAustraliaNetwork/videos/397887614169421/>

War and the Environment Session

Robin Taubenfeld: Friends of the Earth: Impact of Militarism on the environment

Donna Jackson: Rapid Creek Country: military impact and uranium mining poisoning of the environment

Shar Molloy: NT Environmental Officer: PFAS military pollution of the environment

Listen to their speeches and subsequent Q & A at Videos on IPAN Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndependentAndPeacefulAustraliaNetwork/videos/397887614169421/>



Darwin, Saturday 3rd August:

IPAN Protest against US Marines stationed at Robertson Barracks

Comment by a participant:

“Many folk would like the US Marines to leave Darwin. Nick Deane led this action to 'Give 'em the boot' and brought a beautifully mounted boot along with Tim Tams and the offer of a cup of tea to the Commander of the base , but unfortunately there was no response. We took the boot and the bikkies home again after a few speeches and an old peace song-We shall overcome. Most of these bases have never got the permission of the local indigenous community to be on their land and they use a lot of local resources.”

ABC NEWS REPORT on the protest: [VIEW](#)

See the protest action at:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndependentAndPeacefulAustraliaNetwork/videos/2355430687878355/>



**Sunday, 4th August, Charles Darwin University, Casuarina
Campus**

Costs of War Session

Opened with a recorded interview with John Pilger

[VIEW](#)

Dr Margie Beavis: Facts and figures on the cost of militarism and how the money might be better spent

Warren Smith: National Assistant Secretary, MUA: Peace and Justice is Union Business

Dr Alison Broinowski: Former Australian Diplomat and Vice President of Australians for War Powers Reform

Listen to their speeches and Q & A in Videos on IPAN Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IndependentAndPeacefulAustraliaNetwork/videos/721249731664763/>

IPAN Conference Resolutions

The conference formed working groups which brought forward ideas for future campaigns and resolutions to the Plenary Session which wrapped up the conference.

1. IPAN Alliances

That IPAN seeks to establish a network of organisations, in particular those in Australia, New Zealand, Pacifica and South East Asian nations, aimed at sharing knowledge and standing together as advocates for agreed aims for peace, social justice and independence, opposing war and nuclear weapons, in particular:

Giving support for the Joint Code of Conduct for the South China Sea,

Upholding the UN Charter and the Treaty for Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia,

Supporting the people of West Papua and Guam in their struggles for independence,

Endorsing the ICAN campaign to ban nuclear weapons,
Acknowledging the aspiration of Indigenous peoples for sovereignty
and self determination.

2. IPAN message of solidarity to workers at DP World containers and their union the Maritime Union of Australia.

This 2019 National Conference of Independent and Peaceful
Australia Network (IPAN) held in Darwin 2-4 August extends our
solidarity and support to the MUA and its members at DP World
containers terminal ports in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and
Fremantle.

IPAN stands in solidarity with wharfies and the MUA fighting to
protect the hard won wages, working conditions and secure jobs
that benefit working people.

Over the years IPAN has been encouraged by the support from
maritime workers and the MUA's long history of campaigning for a
just and peaceful world for working people.

We wish you all the best in your just struggle.

3. Free Julian Assange

This 2019 National Conference of Independent and Peaceful
Australia Network expresses its solidarity with Julian Assange, its
resolute objection to his detainment in a high security gaol in UK,
and its complete opposition to his extradition to the USA, for
exposing the war-crimes of that country and others to the world.

4. No Australian involvement in US war on Iran

This IPAN conference urges the Australian government to reject pressures from the USA to send our ships to the Straits of Hormuz, adding to the pressures by the USA government to isolate IRAN and destroy its economy.

We reject any Australian involvement in USA war on Iran!

Keep our ships and Australian forces home!

Australia must make its own foreign affairs policies!

5. Solidarity with West Papuan people's struggles

This IPAN Conference supports the struggles of West Papuan people for independence.

IPAN affiliates are encouraged to reach out to West Papuan groups to support and publicise their activities.

6. Export peace not weapons

This 2019 IPAN Conference in Darwin urges Australia to abandon plans to be a major weapons exporter, and instead promote Australia joining with New Zealand in Disarmament and Peace-making together with all geographical regional neighbours.



IPAN Conference in Darwin ends



IPAN Media Release:
6th August, 2019

No ! to US Missiles in Australia !

No ! to joining the U.S. in a battle with China !

“The suggestion that the Northern Territory should be host to American intermediate-range missiles, floated by U.S. Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, at the recent AUSMIN conference in Sydney must be immediately and totally rejected”, said Vince Scappatura, spokesperson for IPAN, the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network. “Darwin would be joining Pine Gap as a high priority target.”

“Furthermore, the call by Pompeo for Australia to “band together” with the United States against China must also be totally rejected.

China poses no direct military threat to Australia.

A war with China would devastate the global economy and Australia’s prosperity and risk crossing the nuclear threshold with unimaginable consequences. We should not allow the US-Australia military alliance to take us down the path of another disastrous war.”

IPAN believes in forging peaceful relations with all countries and trading for mutual benefit.

“In the context of American efforts to further militarise the Indo-Pacific, any strengthening of the US-Australia military alliance will only serve to increase the threat to our peace and security”, said the IPAN spokesperson.

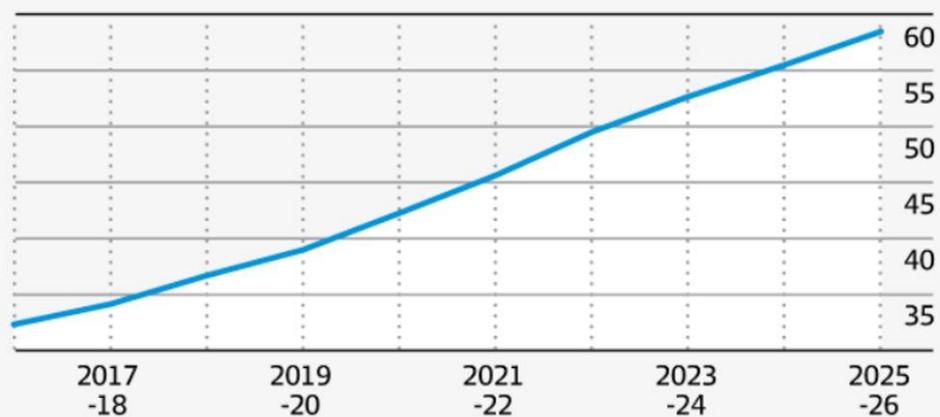
The escalating military spending by the Australian Government

(With acknowledgement to Margie Beavis' presentation at Darwin conference)

Australian Military Spending

The big build-up

Total planned appropriation (\$b)



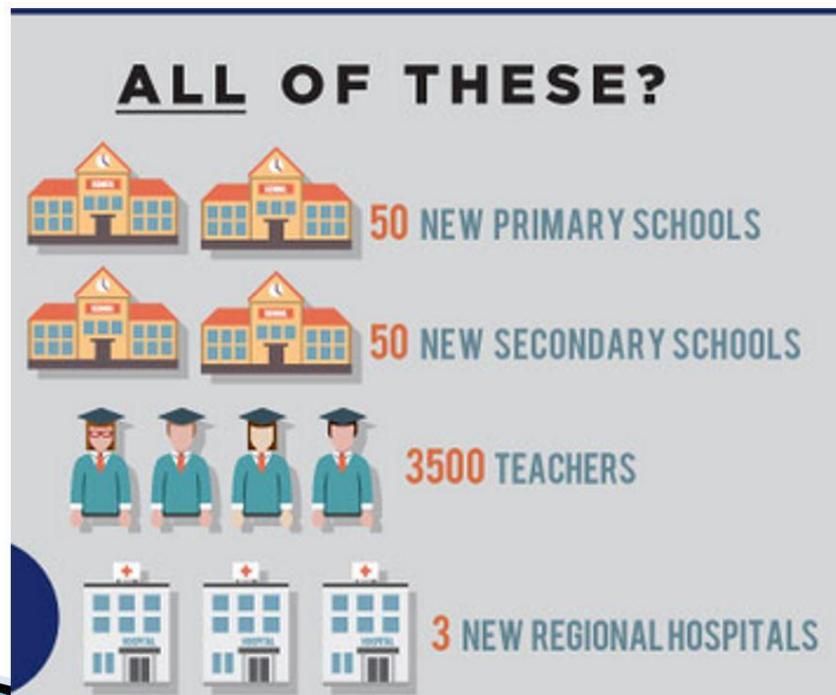
SOURCE: DEFENCE WHITE PAPER

Total planned appropriation

Alternative spending on Social needs

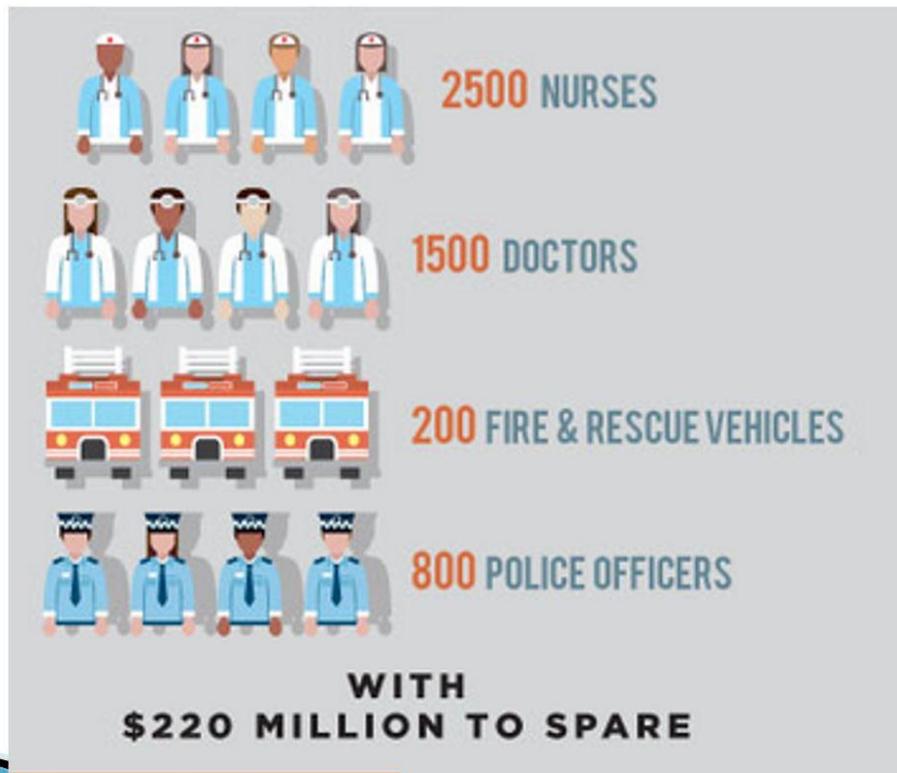
(With acknowledgement to Margie Beavis' presentation at Darwin Conference)

\$ 5 Billion buys:



The Australia Institute February
2019

Plus these



The Australia Institute February
2019

American alliance a choice, not a duty

Letter

The Canberra Times Editorial

15th August, 2019

Your report "Ministers talk up links with the US"

(canberratimes.com.au, August 13) confirms we have a government that is very laid back about the prospect of Australia supporting further disastrous wars.

Clearly, the ministers concerned are not the ones whose lives, livelihoods and futures are threatened as we do so. Those impacts fall largely on civilians where we fight our wars, while back home our

political masters (in this case Treasurer Josh Frydenberg) utter phrases such as "our duty to stand with Washington", which have as much intelligent content as a thought bubble.

Why is it our "duty" to stand with the most militarily aggressive nation on earth? A country with more than 800 military bases scattered around the world, whose military spending and reach dwarfs that of every other nation (including China) and which usurps Australian land as part of its military empire. A country currently itching for a fight with (next on the list) Iran, trashing international law as it does so?

To whom do we owe a "duty" to go along with all this? It seems much more the case that we are simply too cowardly to say no, even to the worst excesses.

The standard pattern has become that a pretext is created for military intervention, our parliament is not consulted about options for dealing with it, chests are thumped, a decision for war is made by a tiny handful, and others are sent off to do the killing and dying in a war that has nothing to do with defending Australia.

**Sue Wareham, Medical Association for the Prevention of War,
Canberra**

(Acknowledgement to the Green Left weekly)

Fund Newstart not US wars

More than 700,000 Australians are struggling to survive on \$40 dollars a day while \$200 billion is being set aside over the next 10 years for Australia's military, largely to support US wars, according to the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN).

IPAN spokesperson Shirley Winton said: "In the past five years, government spending on social and community services has been severely cut back while the Australian governments' military spending on supporting US offensive wars and the military-industrial complex has increased exponentially.

"Over 700,000 Australians depend on Newstart unemployment benefits for their existence, struggling to survive on \$277.85 a week or \$40 a day, which is below the poverty line.

"Many are homeless, going without food and unable to pay for basic necessities like gas, electricity, education and health".

IPAN is calling on the Coalition government and all parliamentary parties to substantially raise the Newstart Allowance.



IPAN (SA) protest outside the Raytheon office in Adelaide.

Raytheon Protest: Tuesday 9th July 4-5 pm on 160 Greenhill Rd.
Protest against Raytheon who supply laser guided weaponry for
conflicts in Yemen, Gaza and Afghanistan.

Yemen Australia

6,600 Yemeni civilians dead
2,398 of them children
22.2 million in need of aid
Cholera epidemic - Famine

United Nations human rights office

**WAGE
PEACE
DISRUPT WAR**

Sign to say no to Australian Arms Exports to Saudi Arabia & UAE

Tell the Story

- Australia subsidises and facilitates weapons sales to the **Saudi Ministry of the Interior (MOI) and to the UAE**. The Saudi MOI is like our own militarised Home Affairs. It includes special forces and the "Saudi CIA".
- The Saudis 'promise' those weapons are not used in Yemen. But there is no verification process: It's just 'asserted' by defence bureaucrats (see Parliamentary record below).
- There are no boundaries in modern militarisation. 'Special' security forces move between external military operations and domestic operations: "home affairs".

- The Saudis use knives against journalists in foreign countries. And Australia has done nothing. **Khashoggi spoke out against War Crimes in Yemen.**
- Germany, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Italy have banned weapons sales to Saudi Arabia.
- The UK Government suspended weapons sales to Saudi Arabia, when they were found to have **failed to fully assess the risk of human rights violations.**
-
- [Share this petition - widely - and sign if you have not already done so.](#)
-
- **And re-tell the story in your own words and using our slides.** It's time to take it further.



Join this protest every second Thursday of the month outside the EOS offices at 75 Elizabeth St Sydney.

Next is September 12th.

Organised by the Australian Anti-bases Campaign Coalition and
IPAN (NSW)

Formation of Australian Arms Control Coalition

Wage Peace and IPAN have joined with Amnesty, Human Rights Watch, Save the Children and other civil society groups in a new **Australian Arms Control Coalition (AACCC)**. **#AusArmsControl** to **#StopArmingSaudi**.

Members of the Coalition (AACCC) are researching and questioning that the Government has no transparent processes for assessment. That the **#ArmsTradeTreaty** has no teeth and is systematically undermined for profit.

For more details: Denis Doherty Anti Bases Coalition
<info@wagepeaceau.org> or ipan.australia@gmail.com

Court rejects Indigenous bid to stop nuclear waste facility

The Federal Court has dismissed action by the Barngarla people who are angry at the process to possibly establish a nuclear waste facility in South Australia.



Community groups have opposed the construction of the plant in their region. Source: SBS News

(With acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 9th August, 2019)

Tugging our forelock again and again to our dangerous ally. An update by John Menadue

The US has coming calling again. Not an Admiral this time but the Pentecostalist Secretary of State Mike Pompeo . He is whistling us up as a faithful dog to join with the US in tackling the problems which Donald Trump created with Iran and presumably to soften us

up to host missiles to protect the US marines and port facilities in Darwin. And Pine Gap.

We are being softened up again step by step to support the US military and industrial complex that promotes perpetual war.

The US is the greatest threat to peace in the world. It is an aggressor across the globe. It is the most violent country both at home and abroad. And people know it. The Pew Research Centre found in 2018 that 45% of people surveyed around the world saw 'US power and influence as a major threat'

.....(he concludes:)

In so far as China is any sort of distant threat it would be much less so if we were not so subservient to the US. The US is determined to make China its enemy. We are cooperating in that process. The US is a very dangerous ally. It is more likely to get us into trouble than out of trouble.

We are joined at the hip to the most violent and dangerous country in the world.

READ ON

(With Acknowledgement to Pearls and Irritations, 5th August, 2019)

An Australian pathway through Pine Gap to the nuclear ban treaty

by Richard Tanter

The Pine Gap Relay Ground Station could be closed, with appropriate notice of intent, without genuine disadvantage to US national security. This would provide a technically and strategically feasible pathway past the most important obstacle posed by Pine

Gap to Australia becoming compliant with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Having failed to prevent the adoption of the nuclear ban by 122-1 at the United Nations in July 2017, the Australian government has shifted ground on its opposition to the treaty as it moves towards entry into force. In a remarkable display of arrogance and intellectual over-reach the government now asserts that, even if Australia wanted to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is simply incompatible with the continuation of the U.S. alliance. We are, the government says, already in too deep to pull out.

On May 31st, 2018, Richard Sadlier, a DFAT assistant secretary told a Senate estimates hearing that joining the treaty would be 'impossible', because the nuclear elements of activities at the 'joint facilities' are now too densely interwoven with the non-nuclear elements that they cannot be separated.

READ ON



“Choosing Humanity: why Australia must join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons” sets out in detail the case for Australia to join the global majority of nations in supporting the nuclear weapon ban

treaty. It demonstrates why joining the treaty is in Australia's interest and documents the public support and political momentum behind this goal. It addresses key criticisms and myths about the treaty and advises a practical pathway for signature and ratification.

The report is an informative tool to further the campaign in Australia, clarifying the practical and political feasibility of joining the treaty. It showcases a diverse range of voices including faith groups, experts, unions, parliamentarians, the Australian Red Cross and First Nations people impacted by nuclear testing.

The treaty has strong civil society and political support in Australia. "Choosing Humanity" is a powerful contribution to the push for Australia to become a state party.

Read the report at: www.icanw.org.au



South Korean Peace actions

Stop War Exercise! Start Peace talks!

Despite the Inter-Korea summit meetings last year which confirmed non-nuclearization of Korea, disarmament, and end of hostile relationship, the current Moon Jae-in government of South Korea allows the ROK-US joint war exercise named 19-2 whose original title was 19-2 'alliance.' (the word, 'alliance' was removed in the current stage). The exercise started in fact on August 5. And its main program is expected to be for two weeks from August 11th. The exercise follows another joint exercise named '19-1 alliance' this March 4-12. The exercise, though it is mainly computer simulation, is not greatly different in nature from the ROK-US joint war exercises in the past which are very aggressive and hostile. To truly realize the agreements of inter-Korea summit meetings, we demand 'Stop war exercise, Start Peace talks!' At the same time, North Korea should stop short-range missile test!



A recent activity by Solidarity for Peace And Reunification of Korea

Right-wing Japanese Government fails to get 2/3 majority in election to change the Japanese Pacifist Constitution

by Richard Stone

The recent elections in Japan have resulted in the ruling right-wing Liberal Democratic Party of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe retaining power, but with a reduced majority.

The results, however, fell far short of the anticipated two-thirds political majority required by the government to change Article 9 of the constitution to enable Japan to officially follow US-led planning for their greater military involvement in the region.

The election results are, therefore, a major setback for US-led regional defence and security planning.

It remains to be seen how Japanese decision-makers respond; the US have already formulated military plans for Japanese involvement in their military operations.

READ ON



Save Julian Assange !

Petition passes 160,000 signatures and Notice

37 delivered to 226 parliamentarians

by Phillip Adams

We are now over 160,000 signatories. we are a very large petition with a very solid database that represents the grass roots of this critically important petitioned action. We are a peaceful campaign, but extremely determined and focused on what we need to do to right this wrong and free Julian Assange. By all statistical measures this petition is rock solid and is positioned exactly where we need it to be. We are in parliament, we are in the Department of Foreign Affairs discussions and now it is time to place on notice the key decision makes that have to date failed to deliver their duty of care to the Australian Citizen and journalist Mr Julian Assange. I can confirm that we delivered petition Notice 37 to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister and all other parliamentarians. High Resolution image files of the document are available via my Twitter account @PhillipAdams64

Sign the petition

(With Acknowledgement to Eureka St, 29th July, 2019)

US war games test Aus-China relations

by Bevan Ramsden



The annual deployment of United States Marines to Darwin reached a peak this year of 2500. This deployment is underwritten by the Force Posture Agreement (FPA) between the US and Australian governments, which was signed in 2014 and was an outcome of President Obama's 'Pivot to Asia' strategy for the US military. It meant relocating US military forces from the Middle East to the Asia-Pacific to confront and contain China.

The FPA contains the following open-door policies to the US: It gives the US Air Force unimpeded access to Australia's airfields and facilities for their fighters and bombers as well as seaports for their naval ships; and it gives the US military and its contractors access

to and use of 'agreed facilities' for refuelling of aircraft, bunkering of vessels, temporary maintenance of vehicles, vessels and aircraft. In addition, it allows for 'temporary accommodation of personnel, pre-positioning of communications equipment, supplies, fuel and ordinance and materials and deploying forces and materials as the parties may agree'.....

IPAN has also argued that Talisman Sabre 2019 'affirms the intent of the United States to prepare for war with China', and 'also reinforces the IPAN campaign to end the stationing of US Marines in Darwin'.

IPAN believes that every effort should be made to keep Australia out of yet another US war overseas and especially against China, our major trading partner. If such a war resulted, the US Marines in Darwin would draw fire, perhaps missiles, on the Northern Territory. For Australia's peace and security, we need to see an end to the stationing of US marines in Darwin and an end to war rehearsals with the United States.

READ ON

ngara
INSTITUTE

PRESENTS
**POLITICS
IN THE PUB**

Wednesday
August 21
7:00-8:30pm

At the
Court House Hotel,
Mullumbimby

This month's discussion:
**INDIGENOUS
PEOPLE:
A REAL VOICE
IN AUSTRALIAN
POLITICS**



With **Thomas Mayor**

Entry - Suggested donation - \$10
Meals available from 5.30pm

ngarainstitute.org.au
f Ngara Institute

**RAPID Public Response Arrangements
to any imminent major military conflict,
invasion or war**

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.

COMING EVENTS SUMMARY

Sydney: August, 6pm for 6.30 start, 20th August, Resistance Bookshop, 22-36 Mountain Street, Broadway, Stop the war coalition presents:

Ross Caputi, a former US Marine who fought in the second attack on Fallujah, and Donna Mulhearn, an anti-war activist and human shield, will challenge the military and media establishment's history of the Fallujah attacks.

Parking is available in Broadway Shopping Centre

Central is the nearest station.

Entry \$5

More information: Pip 0412 139 968

Mullumbimby: Politics in the Pub: Wednesday, August 21st, 7-8.30pm, Court House Hotel: Indigenous People, a real voice in Australian politics with Thomas Mayor. Thomas Mayor is a Torres Strait Islander who was born and raised on Larrakia Land in Darwin. He was a stevedore, or wharfie, for sixteen years before becoming an official of his union, the Maritime Union of Australia. As an activist in his local community, Thomas has passionately fought for workers rights, Indigenous rights, and for social justice in general. In 2017 he attended the Darwin Regional Constitutional Dialogue, where he was elected to represent the region at the Uluru National Constitutional Convention. The convention is where the Uluru Statement from the Heart was overwhelmingly endorsed on 26 May 2017.

Byron Bay: The Book Room at Byron: Book Launch by Ngara Institute: 27 Fletcher St, Thursday, 22nd August at 5.30pm .
The Sacking of Fallujah- a peoples history by Ross Caputi, Richard Hil and Donna Mulhearn

Newcastle: Politics in the Pub, Stag & Hunter Hotel cnr Hannell St & Maitland Rd, Mayfield at 6.30pm Tuesday 27th August.
Hiroshima, Nagasaki and the UN Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons with Bevan Ramsden (NSW IPAN Rep) and Assoc. Prof. Wayne Reynolds

Sydney: Protest outside EOS offices, 75 Elizabeth St , Every

second Thursday of the month. Next is Thursday 12th
September. Organised by the Anti-bases Coalition

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."

Copyright © 2017 IPAN, All rights reserved.

Our emailing address is:

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](#)