

“Nuclear Weapons and Climate Change: Shine a Light, Stop the Hate, Lower the Heat”

Livermore Nuclear Weapons Laboratory, August 6, 2021

Call to Action

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The theme of this year’s action is “Nuclear Weapons and Climate Change: Shine a Light, Stop the Hate, Lower the Heat.” Let us work together to understand the common causes of our current multi-faceted crisis as we work with the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival and others to build the massive multi-generational, multi-racial, *moral fusion* movement we will need to overcome systemic state violence and build a peaceful, just, sustainable, and inclusive world.

Before the pandemic, 140 million Americans were living in poverty or one emergency away from economic devastation. Yet President Biden’s FY 2022 nuclear weapons budget request totals \$43.2 billion!

- 1) Call your Representatives in the House and the Senate. Tell them to cancel the plan to replace the entire U.S. nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons and to redirect nuclear weapons spending to meet human needs and protect the environment.
- 2) Familiarize yourself with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and spread the word. Tell your elected representatives that the U.S. should embrace the Ban treaty and actively pursue a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.
- 3) Support the Poor People’s Campaign call for a Third Reconstruction. The “Third Reconstruction” Resolution, H. Res. 438, is a historic omnibus vision to summon the moral and political resolve of the nation to center the needs of the poor with moral laws and policies, including abolishing nuclear weapons, and embracing a bold climate agenda to transform the economy away from climate chaos to a green economy that prioritizes poor and low-wealth frontline communities.

Because we’re still in pandemic mode, we will now see video from 2019’s procession from the rally site to the West Gate of the Livermore Lab.

Before that, Chizu Hamada will explain the significance of the traditional Japanese Bon dance we will see, where we invite our ancestors, including the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to join us.

Following the dance, sirens sound in remembrance of the victims of the atomic bombs dropped by the United States on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, on August 6th and 9th, 1945.

The sirens signal a die-in. Those who so chose lay down and were outlined in chalk. Some people chose to get up and leave their outline when the order was given to disperse. Others chose to stay in position and risk arrest. Some chose to risk arrest by standing in the gate area in front of the prone bodies and outlines. Those who chose not to risk arrest bore witness.

The chalk outlines we briefly left behind were a solemn reminder of the shadows of human beings vaporized by atomic bombs 76 years ago that still haunt the walls and sidewalks of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Hopefully we'll be back in person next year.